IRMA TIMES

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J. W. Blair, M. P. Replies to Times' Letter

Mr. J. W. Blair M. P. has sent a very nice letter in reply to the letter the Times wrote him re securing part of the interest in the oil rights to the grant of homestead land. He has assured us that he will support General Griesbach in his effort to have this adopted in the Oil and Gas regulations. We notice in Saturdays press reports that the resolution referred to has been introduced in the house as follows.

Settlers in Western Canada will be entitled to a royalty of six and three-quarter per cent of the value of oil produced from their land by speculators, if a resolution carries which was introduced into the house of commons to-day by Brig. Gen W. A. Griesbach, unionist member for Edmonton, Alta. At present the Dominion Government reserves full ownership of minerals in Western Canada and may lease for oil drilling land which is already owned privately, so far as surface are concerned.

General Griesbach asks that hereafter one sixteenth of the value of all taken out of privately owned lands be paid to the owner, in addition to the levy made on the speculater by the Canadian Government. This levy runs from two and a half per cent. to ten per cent. according to the length of the lease. General Griesbach stated that speculators in the United States were compelled to pay eight per cent. royalty to the land owner, because practically all the land is owned by common law right, both as to surface and subsurface production.

Big discoveries of oil are expected in the West, said General Griesbach. Provision ought to be made before any big rush of speculators started so that the land owners might not find themselves depriver of any share in the value of ol discovered while such profits were taken by outsiders who had borne no share of the labor of pioneering and opening up the country to the world.

Premier Meighen informed the house that oil production, so far in Canada, was only about two per cent of the oil used in Canada. The Government paid a large sum yearly in bonuses to encourage production. The activities in that industry in Western Canada so far consisted chiefly in speculation in consessions, he thought. A further levy on produces besides the Government royalty might act as a deterrent to production. The premier however promised investigation. On this understanding, General Griesbach adjourned the debate on his motion until expert opinion was forthcoming.

Are Oil Leases Good Investments?

A word of warning to Times Readers. Knowing that some of our readers have been approached by parties wishing to sell oil leases at enhanced valuations, we wish to point out a few facts in connection with these leases which few buyers fail to consider until after they have parted with their hard earned cash. Buying an oil lease is only the beginning as regards to spending large sums of capital. A lease is only good for one year until more money must be spent to keep it in good standing. Below we quote a few extracts taken from the Regulations for the disposal of Petroleum and Natural Gas rights under which these rights are disposed of in the Irma Field. The new regulations recently passed are for the North West Territories and do not effect Alberta.

Section 14 of these regulations reads The lessee shall, within one year from the date of the lease, have upon the lands described theren such machinery and equipment suitable for carrying on prospecting operations as the Minister may consider necessary, and he shall within the same period, furnish evidence, supported by affidavit, showing the character, quantity and val- of the machinery so installed. If the required machinery is not installed within the period specified, and if evidence of its installation is not furnished within the prescribed period, the lease shall be subject to cancellation in the descretion of the Minister. Provided, however, that the Minister shall not require that the value of the machinery so installed on a location shall exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

Section 15 reads as follows, The lessee shall commence boring operations on his leasehold within fifteen months of the date of his lease, and he shall continue such boring operations with reasonable dilligence, to the satisfaction of the Minister, with a view to the discovery of Oil or Natural Gas. If the lessee does not commence boring operations within the time prescribed, or if having commenced such operations he does not prosecute the same with reasonable dilligence, to the satisfaction of the Minister, or if he ceases to carry on the same for a period of more than three months, the lease shall be subject to cancellation in the descretion of the Minister, upon three months notice to this effect being given to the lessee. Provided, however, that if satisfactory evidence is furnished to show that the sum of at least two thousand dollars has been expended in actual boring operations, by recognised methods, upon the leasehold in any year, such expenditure shall be accepted as compliance with this provision for the year during which such expenditure shall have been incurred.

Section 16 refers to assignment and consolidation of leases, and provides that such consolidation or grouping shall apply only to the second and third years of the term of the leases.

Section 17 refers to rentals and reads in part. The Minister may, deduct from the rental which became due at the beginning of the year in respect of the several locations grouped, the amount expended in actual boring operations on one or more of the locations, exclusive of the ocst of casing.

Section 18 reads, Providing, however, that the Minister shall not require that the value of the machinery to be installed on any group of locations shall exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars, nor shall he require that the expenditure incurred in boring operations thereon in any one year shall exceed the sum of two thousand dollars for each location included in the group.

Section 19 reads, The maximum area of the locations which may be included in one consolidation or group shall not exceed twenty square miles, nor shall the locations so included be seperate one from the other by a greater distance than two miles.

Our readers will see by carefully studying the above sections that there is a lot to consider in buying or locating an oil lease. In the first place they should be prepared to spend the necessary capital to discover oil, or be able to associate with others not seperated more than two miles from their own lease who can share the expense of drilling. Remember this grouping only applies for three years. Should your lease be isolated or should other interests have grouped the leases on all sides of yours which has often been done you would be compelled to install the necessary machinery and spend the required money yourself.

In recent years the Minister has been very lenient in granting extensions of time in which to start drilling which has been a very great drawback to many districts. Now that several districts of Alberta are anxiously waiting for development, and the department have been petitioned to see that the regulations are enforcec according to the terms of the leases, we presume it will not be so easy to secure extensions.

Again as the Irma field covers a very large tract of land the chances of securing a fabulous price for a lease is very small, as any company looking fora location to drill has a large district to chose from and rather than pay a big price would wait till such time as the department get ready to cancel the ones they are after. We have given this advise for those who are not in a position to finance an oil well.

If you have a few hundred dollars you want to invest in oil we would advise you to put it in the Savings Bank till such a time as some reliable company who is needing capital for legitimate operations is willing to sell shares; But we beleive in the long run the Savings Bank will be the safest place for your cash.

If you are in a position to invest enough capital to put a well down to the oil bearing sands we beleive there is no better chance than the Irma field.

Several large companies are considering drilling in the near future and before long we expect to be able to report opperations that will surprise most of our readers. Deep water runs slow. The same with some of the big oil companies. They invariably make a big noise about places they are least interested in and after the crowd has all been stampeded to new fields will quietly buy up the ground they know to contain oil. With the presure being brought on the department of Ottawa for the enforcement of the regulations and with the opening of spring we expect to soon be able to announce the resumption of drilling in what we believe to be the best oil district in Alberta.

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Jones spent the week end at Viking.

Mr. H. Warren was a visitor in Irma district last week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Jackson spent the week-end at Edmonton.

Miss L. McFarland spent the week-end in Irma.

Mr C. Swailes spent last Saturday in Irma.

Mr. H. F. Tilley, of C. N. R. passenger Dept. was a visitor in otwn last week.

Good five room house to rent cheap. See J. W. Wyatt. 4t

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Marr left Irma Tuesday night for Bruderheim where Mr. Marr has accepted a position as operator.

Reserve this date—Easter Monday evening. The choir and Sunday school are preparing a program for this evening which promises to be exceptionally good. Further particulars in later issues of The Times.

We are sorry to report that the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McDonald are very ill with a bad cold.

Mr. W. H. Pennock has been spending a week at Edmonton.

How about a cream separator? J. W. Wyatt has several second hand cream separators in good working order to sell cheap and two new separators that are guaranteed for ten years. Terms to suit. 4t

The regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society will be held at the home of Mrs. J. W. Graydon on Thursday afternoon March 17th at 3 P. M. Every woman is invited to attend.

Mrs. Hockin Secretary.

Irma Council will hold a special meeting at Farmers Mutual Lumber Co. office next Monday evening when the advisibility of placing business or Personal Tax will be discussed.

HOME COOKING.

A sale of home cooking will be held in the GWVA rooms Saturday March 26th, by the Irma U.F.W.A. Contributions will be thankfully received.

- Quality Merchandise -

For A **GOOD** LOAF OF BREAD.

TRY - - **ROBIN HOOD FLOUR**

The GUARANTEED high Patent Flour.

HERE Wednesday MARCH 16

Mr. PALMEN from "The House of Hobberlin"

See the lovely new CLOTHS and the New SPRING MODELS.

March 16 WEDNESDAY.

J. C. McFARLAND & CO.

Hospital Situation Needs Careful Consideration

In last weeks issue there appeared an advertisement for a Public Meeting to be held at Egerton on March 10th, this advertisement was sent to us by the Wainwright Board of Trade and Community League who are fostering the present movement. At the meeting called at Wainwright on February 24th, two delegates represented the Irma district, but as no delegates were present from the eastern villages it was decided to hold the next meeting at Egerton on the above date. Apparently the ratepayers east of Wainwright are not very anxious to go into the proposed scheme. The scheme we believe they propose is to build a large hospital at Wainwright and sub or smaller hospitals at Irma, Egerton and other places requiring hospital service. As the department has turned down every suggestion the residents of Irma have proposed for the formation of a hospital district and the erection of a cottage hospital at Irma we fail to see how it will be possible to be able to finance the large hospital scheme with one large hospital and serveral smaller ones. Irma certainly needs a hospital so does Wainwright Egerton and Shauvin. But we believe all of these towns would be better with their own hospital boards and local management. With the immense development in the oil business likely to tke place in the next few months it is just a question if Irma will not need as large a hospital as Wainwright long before either hospitals can be built.

GUILD NOTES.

The Guild wet as usual on Monday evening in the basement of the church. The topic of the evening was a debate, "Resolve that books are better friends than people." The speakers on the affirmative were Mr. S. Brown and Lila Maquire, on the negative Mr. Masson and Mrs. S. J. Hockin. The negative side won, the judges who were Mrs J. Graydon, Mrs. Blankenship and Mr. Williams, decided the affirmative had points equal to two extra marks making negative 6 and affirmative 4. The meeting will be held in the basement of the church Monday 14th. Being near the 17th the program will be Irish. If you are Irish come and help with the program, if you are not Irish come and listen to those who are and you will wish you were. If you come you will bemade welcome.

A treat is in store for the people of Irma on Good Friday evening at 8 P. M. in the church when Mrs. Yarwood, one of our missionaries from the Ruthenian Home, Edmonton, will give an address. Miss Yarwood will dress in the Ruthenian costume. This is a public meeting under the auspices of the W. M. S. and everyone is urged to attend.

RE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Special meeting held at Irma Alta.

R. D. Smallwood-W. B. Peterson, that J. W. Wyatt be appointed chairman of this meeting. Cd.

Peterson-Smallwood that L. Smith be appointed secretary of this meeting. Cd.

W. B. Peterson, H. Peterson, that School Boards of below mentioned schools will hold a meeting on the 19th of March to discuss further particulars of a consolidted school at Irma. Schools are as follows: Ross, Strawberry Plains, Glenholm, Sunny Brae, Alma Mater. Carried.

J. W. Wyatt-Peterson that the secretary of this meeting be instructed to notify secretraries of the above mentioned school to uplan maps of their respective districts as to the whereabouts of the school children also the travelled roads. Carried.

G. W. Mitchell-H. Peterson that this meeting be adjourned. Carried.

Remember now is the time to get your grain cleaned for seed. J. W. Wyatt has several Grain Cleaners that he will sell on terms until next fall and you had better see him and get one. 4t

BUY FROM US FOR LESS.

Dont you think the store who has served you well during the past, merits your trade always. We have given you credit when we could. Handled your live stock. Saved you money on coal. Sold you goods as cheaply as anyone and will give you in dividends all profits over expenses. Surely we deserve your patronage. See that we get it.

NEW FOOTWEAR.

We are receiving some of the best makes of shoes ever shown in Irma and the prices are lower we would be pleased to show you our stock.

GINGHAMS.

Nice patterns of good quality all prices at 35c. per yd

GROCERIES.

Wedont boast of quality and then buy job stuff as some stores do but you can always buy reliable goods here at closes prices.

OUR TERMS.

Are cashed or approved credit for 30 days only. Any-one owing us for longer than 30 days do not expect credit.

Irma Co-operative Co., Ltd.

Some Pages From Lives Of Adventurers Who Blazed Western Trail

Some Incidents of the Founding of Our Own Country, Which All Prairie People Should Know.

EPICS OF THE WILDERNESS

In this column from time to time we will endeavour to portray something of the romantic past of our western country. Too much of our history has been clouded over by the mists of time, and we will endeavour to give some of the chronicles of soldiers and gentlemen, adventurers and churchmen, who sought the way to the western sea through thousands of miles of forest and prairie and mountain.

Looking Backward

The modern traveller visiting Western Canada for the first time cannot fail to be impressed with a sense of the stability and magnitude of the operations which come under his observation. The activity and development is such that it might well be the product of generations of a careful and ordered evolution, yet a few years ago this region was a wild and unknown land, inhabited only by roving Indian tribes and the wild animals indigenous to the remotest solitudes.

The splendid panorama of the fertile farms producing lavishly under the application of scientific methods; these commodious and ample homes, which with their attendant barns and steadings bespeak a dignified and ample prosperity; the great grain elevators which sit opulent and plethoric amongst the switches at every station; the busy towns of all sizes and conditions which at intervals dot the plains; and the net-work of railways which year after year carry out an Imperial harvest, to meet the requirements of dwellers in less fortunate lands, have all sprung into being, as if they had been touched by the magic wand of the enchanter.

We talk of old timers and pioneers but many of those who came in with the beginnings are still in robust middle life. For personal knowledge of original conditions, we do not have to depend upon the fantastic tales of senile graybeards, for as likely as not the man in the next office or store arrived in the country with the "first train." When immigration started there were, of course, some men of wide vision, who were scoffed at for their prophecies and the faith that was in them, but there never was a dreamer of them all fantistic enough to foretell the reality.

Living Pioneers

People still live in the country who have seen these fenced and bounded pastures black with the buffalo herds and have ridden for their lives from a Blackfoot war party.

When our fathers went to school, the Saskatchewan river rolled down from the Rocky Mountains to the sea through an unknown wilderness, traversed only at times by Indians hunters, and the lonely packet drivers of the great fur company. To our grandfathers the region was not even a name.

The settlement of the western plains is an epic which has never been equalled in the history of any country.

The wave of immigration which swept across the Mississippi river in the years that followed the civil war was an extraordinary movement, but in completeness and celerity it almost fades into insignificance beside the "Great Trek" to the Saskatchewan. The Trail of the American Argonauts to the new lands of their own country was beset with hardships and dangers innumerable. Predatory bands of Indians followed their caravans to kill and steal; pestilence attacked their cattle, their meagre crops planted under unfamiliar conditions often failed to accomplish the scriptual destiny of "seed time and harvest" and many a pioneer defending his home and family "saw the blood upon his hearth stone by the light of his burning roof-tree."

Early Days

With little machinery for the administration of justice, masterless men and free-booters often became a greater menace to life and property, than even the Indians, and at one time the greater portion of what is now the state of Montana was actually in the hands of gun fighters and highwaymen.

All pioneering in a new country has its vicissitudes, but in Western Canada these came chiefly from lack of experience, and the lot of teh first settlers on the plains was cast in pleasant places in comparison with that of the people who first developed the Western States of the American republic.

The Canadian Indians, secure in the sanctity of their treaties with the Crown, were friendly and peaceful; the North West Mounted Police carried the even-handed and inflexible justice of the British to the farthest confines of the wilderness; while railways to the produce of the country followed fast in the track of settlement. When these conditions are taken into consideration in conjunction with the incomparable and uniform fertility of the vast reaches of agricultural land, it is no wonder that development was rapid and successful and that Western Canada is in a fair way to become the most important food producing region, not only in the western hemisphere, but on the face of the globe.

A Dream of Empire

When Cardinal Richelieu, the potent minister of Louis XIII, and probably the greatest statesman the Gallic race—ever fertile in genius—has produced, dreamed a vision of a mighty new France on the banks of the St. Lawrence, he summoned to aid him in his imperial project a brilliant coterie of noblemen and governors, soldiers of fortune and gentlemen adventurers. And as beseemed a prince of the Roman heirarchy, he invoked the help of the Church Militant, and not an expedition sailed from the shores of Normandy or Brittany but numbered amongst its members some hardy priest prepared to carry the doctrines of Rome and the dominion of France to the uttermost confines of the new world.

PIERRE ESPRIT RADISSON

The First White Man to Glimpse the Great Prairies of the West

A True Tale of Adventure that Reads Like the Wildest Fiction
The Inception of the Hudson's Bay Company.

It was a splendid and picturesque era. France, then the foremost country of Europe, was approaching the summit of her feudal splendour.. An easy but sagacious king was well content to leave the cares of state to a minister of rare ability and unquestioned patriotism. So Richelieu, with almost sovereign authority, was free to pursue his projects and policcies without let or hindrance. Yet to the Cardinal, and his lieutenants and governors, it is doubtful if New France signified much more than the country tributary to the St. Lawrence river. Indeed it is certain that the first French settlers believed Lake Superior to be the long sought western ocean and that a voyage on its waters would at length bring them to China. Canada was to them a country of forest and river, lake and mountain. The prairies were utterly unknown. They early came to realize the possibilities of the fur trade, nad valuable monopolies were granted by the crown in connection with its prosecution. Exploration has always gone hand in hand with Indian barter, and in pursuit of pelts many hardy adventurers pushed through the waterways to the westward and constantly added to their knowledge of the country.

In all the moving pageant of governors and seigneurs, of soldiers and churchmen, of adventurers and explorers, which moves across the pages of history of the old regime, there is no more outstanding figure than Pierre Esprit Radisson. His story, though often told, has all the glamour of a romance. He came to New France as a sailor boy of fifteen from the Port of St. Malo. He found his way to Three Rivers, at that time the starting place for interior expeditions and the great centre of the Indian trade. While hunting in the woods with some companions he was captured by the Mohawks, who are said to have been so influenced by the bold and dauntless bearing of the lad that they spared his life while putting his comrades to death with approved and bloody circumstance. He was adopted into an Indian family in place of a son killed in some tribal foray. For two years he watched in vain an opportunity to escape but although he was kindly treated by his captors, they were long in relaxing their vigilence. At last, when he was hunting in the woods with a party of Indians, he rather ungratefully killed his three companions and made his escape. He was, however, followed by a large party of savages who overtook him when still far from the settlements and carried back to the Mohawk country. Preparations were made for ceremonial torture which were viewed by the victim with dauntless courage and high disdain. He actually suffered some of the torments devised by the ingenious savages and excited their admiration by his iron fortitude. He was saved from death by the opportune arrival of the Indian who had adopted him; but he bore the marks of the ordeal upon his body until the day of his death.

Escape from Captors

Undeterred by this experience, he again escaped. This time he eluded his pursuers and after a journey of great hardship succeeded in reaching Dutch settlements on the Hudson river, where New York now stands. There was no commerce between New Amsterdam and the French settlements and Radisson was far from home and penniless. However, the way of the sailor was open to him and he shipped as seaman for a voyage to France. Strange indeed must have been the change from the lodges of his recent hosts and the leafy paths of the northern forests to the forecastle of a trading vessel. On reaching his native land, he reshipped for Canada, and arrived at Three Rivers like one back from the dead.

Whilst with the Mohawks, his mind had been fired by certain stories which had been handed eastward from tribe to tribe of a fabulous land which lay towards the setting sun; of a vast inland sea; of rivers that ran a thousand leagues through level and fertile plains; of white men with red hair who lived in walled towns; and of the shaggy monsters who roamed the western savanahs in countless thousands. Then too, Radisson shrewd trader as he was, realized that the finest peltries of beaver and otter and marten and sable came from the far northwest and he was afire to go exploring.

A Vista of the West

Fortune favored him. During his absence, his sister had married Medard Chouart, who carried the title of Sieur de Groseilliers. He had money and some influence, and was a hardy and resolute adventurer after Radisson's own heart. So, joining forces, the brothers-in-law made preparations for an expedition into the western wilds. Fur trading in New France was a prorogative of the Crown and privileges were only granted to favorites and those in possession of influence. Free traders received as little encouragement from the authorities in the early days as did their more modern successors, at the hands of the most puissant Hudson's Bay Company. The two French voyagers, therefore, launched their bark canoes and slipped away with their Indian guides, with as little ostentation as possible. They reached Sault Ste. Marie and wintered with an Indian tribe at Green Bay. The next summer was spent in trading and exploring the Lake Superior region, and a visit was made to the source of the Mississippi which was undoubtedly discovered by these two intrepid adventurers. They were certainly the first white men to visit the great Sioux nation which at that time had their hunting grounds in the territory now known as the state of Minnesota. The long past summer of 1659 saw them on the Manitoba prairies, and they stood on the eastern verge of the great plains, more than half a century in advance of the de la Verendryes who were the first Europeans to catch a glimpse of the snow crowned ramparts of the Rockies.

Fascinating as was the western prairies with the new wonders that might be beyond the sky line, the wealth of furs lay to the north; and Radisson and his companions returned to the Lake Superior region. After further exploring and bartering, they set out on their long return journey to New France, bringing with them rich stores of peltries and strange tales of their adventures.

They had gathered together a flotilla of Indian canoes to bear back the bales of furs which were the trophies of their far adventures, and they passed down the river and reached Quebec like conquerors coming home from a war. Strange Indians from the lonely lands of the interior clad in skins sewn with deer sinew, and brilliant with the dyed quills of the porcupine, swung their paddles in unison, never betraying by sign or gesture their wonder at the ways of the white men. The two leaders who had found opportunity to change the buckskin of the trapper for the martial finery affected by the French adventurers, comported themselves with dignity and authority in the leading craft. As they reached the city, the Standard of France flung a stately welcome from the ramparts, the drums of the garrison rolled a salvo and cannon thundered from the bastions.

They were reassured by this reception, as the arbitrary treatmen usually meted out to free traders had caused them much previous misgivings and theiy neither owned royal charter nor were they under the patronage of noble or courtier. That season, however, the fur trade in Canada had been a failure and the two ships in the river were preparing to return to France with empty holds, when the arrival of Radisson and de Grosseilliers saved the situation.

More than that they brought back with them all the glamour of new and strange lands which might yearly be laid under rich tribute; they had opened up fresh trade routes; and had made wise and politic treaties with the Indians. Therefore, for the time, those in authority considered it wise to overlook the heinous sin of free trading and likely too, the governor exacted handsome toll of the profits of the expedition.

A New Expedition

Life in the settlements soon palled upon the travellers and they commenced to plan another expedition. But authority was not always complacent and the governor cast avaricious eyes on the Indian trade. He offered Radisson his countenance and protection for half the profits. This was refused with more indignation than policy. There is no doubt that the oppression of the officials of New France, on this and future occasions, resulted in the acquisition by the English of the fur trade in the vast and virgin territory tributary to the shores of the northern sea.

The new expedition accordingly slipped away without beat of drum, and after many adventures to the voyagers penetrated far through the chain of lakes to the westward. They built a stockaded fort near where Duluth in Minnesota presently stands and passed a hard winter.

The Sioux nation, which occupied the territory adjacent to the headwaters of the Mississippi, maintained constant war with the Crees and the Ojibway confederacy who inhabited the region north of Lake Superior and the westward country.

These tribal wars did not accord with the trade policy of the Frenchmen, as the Indians would not bring in their furs when threatened with attack by their enemies.

Radisson undertook to reconcile these ancient foemen and it is a wonderful tribute to his habit of command and diplomatic genius that he actually succeded in this project.

Years afterward when association with the British gave him some speaking knowledge of English, he wrote his account of that winter. His written use of English was weird and strange, but as a straightforward narrative of personal observation and experience it is of absorbing interest.

Direct and aggressive, as in all his dealings, he marched truculently over such difficulties as niceties of language and succeeded in telling a stirring tale. Unlike many of the British explorers who have with all due propriety penned their experiences he had the Gallic gift of humor, and the pages of his memoirs are lightened with sardonic appreciation of ludicrous situations.

Keeping the dignity and state of the white man amidst savage people, he sent messengers to the Sioux that he awaited in his fort their ambassadors.

Bathed in Tears

So strong a hold had this masterful Frenchman secured upon the imagination of this fierce and warlike people, that they instantly responded by sending gifts of provisions and other products of their country, and with the opening of spring a delegation from the various tribles of the Sioux nation, consisting of five hundred warriors, waited on him and held council. He describes in his curious English the strange ceremony which they practiced of weeping on the heads of those whom they wished to honor.

According to Radisson, they soaked his swarthy locks with their tears. Strange indeed it must have been to see the sardonic Frenchman passively submitting to these watery caresses. However, a new treaty was made and peace proclaimed between the two great Indian clans. The good will of the Crees was also secured, and they in their turn sent ambassadors offering homage and gratitude.

Shores of Hudson Bay

Radisson and de Groseilliers paid a formal visit to the Sioux in the Minnesota country and made many interesting observations. The next season they visited the Cree country and penetrated far north towards Hudson's Bay. There appears to be a diversity of opinion as to whether they actually reached the shores of the northern sea on this expedition but the familiarity which they displayed with the region would incline to the belief that they must have actually been on the ground at that time.

The store of furs which they carried back with them to Three Rivers was rich beyond expectation, but this time there was no "feu de joie" fired to signal their arrival. It is ill to flout those in authority and the governor, mindful of the scornful independence with which Radisson rejected his proposal of patronage, promptly seized the cargoes. The Company of the Hundred Associates (compagnie des cents assoccies) were supposed to have the trading monopoly for all New France, and the two adventurers were not operating under their auspices. Their furs were valued at nearly half a million dollars in modern money but of that sum only a paltry twenty thousand was allowed the two partners. Protests were in vain although de Groseilliers actually went to France and laid the matter before the court there.

Britain in the Field

Some one advised Radisson that he might receive assistance from the English and accordingly the two explorers voyaged to England but even there fortune seemed against them. The great plague was raging through London, the population was terror-stricken and no merchant would consider a new enterprise. The court was seeking safety in the isolation of Windsor and altogether the outlook was black. Radisson's stories, however, had been listened to with interest by a gentleman connected with the king, and he and his companion were taken to entertain the courtiers with their tales of strange adventure and far countries. Charles II., whose mother was a daughter of France, and who had spent many of his exiled years in the ante-rooms of his cousin, Louis XIV., was more familiar with the French tongue than with his native English, and he lightened many a tedious hour by listening to the stories of the explorers.

It must have been a strange transition for the two brothers-in-law from the ironbound shores of Hudson's Bay or the remote banks of the Saskatchewan, to old London town and the English state of Windsor park.

The men who had lately been consorting with the most dreaded Indian tribes of a far unknown region were now members of the brilliant retinue which surrounded the royal Stuart.

Like cries to like, and it was not long until Radisson attracted the notice of that splendid old figure of romance, Prince Rupert, whose gallant exploits on land and sea have been the theme of many a story of chivalrous achievement. Under such patronage it was easy to enlist capital. The king himself, from his private purse, allowed both men forty shillings per week during the time they remained in the country. Then the days were still remembered of Drake and Raleigh, and Hawkins and all the great gentlemen adventurers who in the days of Queen Elizabeth had carried the flag of England to far and remote seas with glory to their country and much personal profit to themselves and those who embarked in their enterprises. So, one of the most comprehensive charters ever granted to a mercantile company was obtained from the king and an association of noblemen and gentlemen soon provided sufficient capital for the development of the Canadian fur trade. Radisson's plan was to avoid conflict with the French by reaching the country through Hudson's Bay.

The Great Company

Thus the great "Company of Gentlemen Adventurers Trading into Hudson's Bay" which was to exercise in the years to come such potent influence on the destinies of Canada came into being.

An expedition was soon equipped which, under the guidance of Radisson and de Grosseilliers, reached Hudson's Bay and soon began to return an hundred fold the English pounds which had gone into the adventure.

Radisson's subsequent adventures might fill many volumes. His romantic marriage in England to the daughter of Sir John Kirke; his temporary reversion to the service of the French company; and his daring exploits on the shores of the northern sea in the conflicts that arose between the British interests and those of New France would be of enthralling interest; but these are stories which may well be told elsewhere. We have tried in the preceeding paragraphs to describe as briefly as possible the incidents of his career which were peculiarly assocaited with the formation of the great fur company, and eventually brought the British into control of the great territory known as Rupert's Land, which included within its spacious boundaries what is now known as Canada's three prairie provinces.

PEOPLE, BOOKS AND THINGS

A WEEKLY CAUSERIE OF CASUAL THINGS—TREATED IN LIGHTER VEIN.

AIR FOR CITY WORKERS—JACK JOHNSON AND HIS TROUBLES — THE WHITE SLAVE LAW—THE MEMOIRS OF FATHER LACOMBE.

Of course, in this western country, the development is rapid. There are many conveniences that obtain in older places which we are learning to do without, and it isn't a bit to our advantage. In the towns and cities of the west, there are many buildings in which workers are employed where no adequate arrangements are made for proper air space.

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There is a large store in one of the western cities, where it is always a wonder to me that the help exist at all. One has only to be in it for a short time to feel narcotized for the lack of air, and the unfortunate girls, whose duty it is to work there, are pale, languid and anaemic. This is true of many other similar establishments, and it has an exceedingly bad effect, not only on those employed in the premises, but upon people who go there as customers.

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In all the big cities of the east there are municipal provisions made for plenty of air space and any establishment violating the regulations are subject to heavy penalties. Proper computations are made as to the cubic quantity of air required for each person and they are entitled to demand their proper quota. In the west we are not particular enough about these things.

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I referred last week to the handling of candies and other foodstuffs by people in the stores with their bare hands. I have since learned that in Toronto and several other eastern cities, there is a severe penalty prescribed in such cases. Scoops must be used or gloves worn.

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Jack Johnson, erstwhile heavyweight champion of the world, is anxious to come back to the United States and face the music that is awaiting him. During the hey-day of his career, Johnson, who is a big husky black negro, married a white woman, and was exceedingly proud of her. I saw the two of them in Vancouver on their return from Australia, where they were refused accommodation at the C.P.R. hotel; and quite properly too. There is something repulsive in seeing a white woman mated to a member of the black race.

Our black brothers may be our spiritual kin if you like, but I refuse to believe that some of them are our equals. In the reconstruction period that followed the American Civil war, a number of the more extreme of the northern abolitionists, were strongly in favor—in theory—of removing all marriage restrictions between the two races, but I have failed to find a single instance in which these gentlemen were willing to arrange the marriage of their daughters with a black negro, no matter how enlightened they might be.

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However, to get back to Jack Johnson again, who, by the way, is the son of a woman who was born in slavery. He very speedily got tired of his white wife and got rid of her. I do not know by what practice he achieved this end, but it seems to have been legal, for he took up with another white girl who appears to have belonged to a decent, respectable family. He brought her from Minnesota to Chicago with him, and I think, subsequently married her. Before that consummation, by bringing this girl from one city to another, he made himself amenable to the laws of the country.

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There is an enactment in the United States, known as the Mann Act, which is rigid in its enforcements and severe in its penalties, and the pugilist fell under its scope.

Some years ago, social investigators discovered that a tremendous trade in girls was being carried on in a number of the largest cities of the States. These women, who were procured by the vilest means possible, were bought and sold to keepers of immoral establishments. A girl's price was governed by her good looks. In a vigorous attempt to put an end to this white slave trade the Mann Act was passed. It provided severe penalties for the bringing of a woman for immoral purposes from one state to the other, and being a Federal measure, was enforced with a good deal of rigor.

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It was designed in the first instance to break up the ring of white slave traders, but it also had the effect of putting a severe crimp into many jovial week-end parties. In its inception it wasn't intended to achieve the latter object at all, but it has had such a salutary effect in curbing immorality, that it has been allowed to stand.

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Jack Johnson came under its provisions in connection with his white sweetheart and was forced to fly from the United States to evade punishment. He now proposes to come back and take what is coming to him, which, at the very least, will be a year on the rock pile. He doubtless thinks it will be good training for him, and when his period of imprisonment is over he can again start gathering in the shekels in the pugilistic game.

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In this country there is a general tendency to minimize the operation of the laws in the United States. It is quite true that many of the State enactments are more honored in their breach than their observance, but this is not correct in regard to infractions of Federal laws. Uncle Sam is a particularly jealous old gentleman, and anyone stepping on his corns, has got to go pretty warily. When the Federal machinery once gets moving some one is likely to get tangled up in it. This white slave law is a Federal one and there have been some severe punishments handed out under it, as several prominent individuals, participating in joy jaunts have learned to their bitter cost.

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I believe that in this prairie country we are qualifying for a land boom of unprecedented activity. Everything points in that direction. A tremendous land movement has been sweeping the agricultural states of the American Union; farm lands there have leaped into great popularity as solid investments, with the speculative element in them that appeals to the sporting instinct which exists in most of us; the price of agricultural products has made farming in certain sections profitable and pleasant; and if history repeats itself we may expect to see the infection spread across the line into Canada, where —in the west at least—there is one of the largest tracts of uniformly fertile land in North America.

I have recently been reading the memoirs of that veteran missionary and pioneer, Father Lacombe, I say it here and say it fairly that there is no one, neither statesman nor legislator, nor pioneer, nor explorer to whom this country owes one tithe of the debt that it does to this simple and splendid priest. With a superb sacrifice he banished himself to the hinterlands of civilization; endured discomfort and hardships incredible; and employed his brilliant talents, and saintly personality to carry the message of civilization, and the cross of Christianity to the Indian tribes of the far northwest.

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His influence with the Indians, was never exceeded—not even approached—by any other individual, before or since. When he went to the plains the Blackfeet were the terror of the country. They were bold and warlike, and the persecution and injusticewhich they had suffered at the hands of the Americans, had inflamed them with resentment against the whole white race. They held the rolling foothill country from the Red Deer to the Milk River, and were a scourge and a fear alike to the white traders and their Indian neighbours of other tribes.

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Yet fearless and unafraid, Father Lacombe established relations with them. He learned to speak their language, and garbed in his rusty soutane, with his crucifix in girdle, he went in and out amongst their lodges. He was the friend of Crowfoot, their great war chief, and it was due to his influence with him that the Blackfoot nation remained loyal during the rebellion of 1885. Had this numerous and warlike tribe taken the warpath at that time, a bitter and sanguinary Indian war would without question have ensued. The Blackfeet were restive; the people of Alberta were sending urgent appeals to the government for troops which were not available, when Father Lacombe, girding his soutane about him went dauntlessly out on the plains to hold a council with Crowfoot. The parliament was in session at Ottawa; and Sir John Macdonald and his ministers who knew only too well the importance of the conference, waited tense with anxiety for news from the devoted priest. At last it came. Parliament was sitting, when the Prime Minister rose in his place. He always had an appreciation of the dramatic. The House listened with suspense and attention. He said, "I have here a telegram from Father Lacombe. He says that he will guarantee the loyalty of Crowfoot and the Blackfoot nation, at this crisis." This announcement was greeted with a tumult of cheers. This simple priest had averted what might well have been a national calamity.

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This was only one incident of a life of wonderful usefulness and there certainly has never been a citizen of the west who has rendered greater service to his country. The story of Father Lacombe for nearly fifty years is the history of the west.

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His mind was a wonderful storehouse of incident and adventure and achievement and history. His friends urged him to make some record of his life and work, but he was always busy about some unselfish task. Now it was his Metis settlement in northern Alberta that claimed his attention; again some Indian tribe required a visit; or some mission needed funds; and it became apparent that if he had to do it himself, his memoirs would never be written.

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They were, however, eventually given the public, having been prepared by a young lady who has had some experience as a professional biographer. Speaking of the book the other day, a gentleman in a western city who is the only person living entitled by long experience and remarkable reputation to even approach Father Lacombe in his services to the west, referred to it as "Father Lacombe's tragedy."

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The book, however, should be read; it contains some information of value.

Z. M. Hamilton

RIFLE SHOOTING REVIVING

The Provincial Rifle Association of Saskatchewan held a meeting at the quarters of the Great War Veterans in Regina on Saturday of last week.

It was decided to hold a provincial rifle association shoot this summer to select a team to go to Ottawa for the Dominion rifle meet in August.

A representative of the province will also be sent to Bisley in England.

The officers of the association were re-elected and are: President, Colonel Carman; secretary, Colonel Garner; and treasurer, Colonel McAra. The executive committee was also re-elected. There were a number of out-of-town delegates who attended the meeting, and these promised the associations they represented would start rifle shooting just as soon as the weather permits.

Questions and Answers

A Great Trade Balance

Question: Statistician, Strasbourg. Can you give me some idea of the trade balance of the United States?

Answer: A British publication states that the trade balance of the United States for the fiscal year, ending June 30th last, was over £795,600,000, a figure never approached before in the history of any nation. The exports aggregate £1,414,800,000. Imports, £619,000,000. Of the exports Europe got £926,800,000. We give these figures in pounds as under the present exchange situation it would be too complicated to reduce it to dollars.

Literary Earnings

Question: Student, Russell, Man. What is the maximum amount made by a novelist in payment of his literary efforts?

Answer: Sir Walter Scott made a splendid fortune by his pen. It is stated that at one time, when the Waverley Series were in the hey-day of their popularity, he was clearing as much as $100,000 a year. His literary earnings, during his busy life, could not have been much short of a million dollars.

Painless Surgery

Question: Jas. Swift, Kerrobert. Can you give me some explanation of the painless surgery which we have heard so much about in newspapers and magazines recently?

Answer: For many years, in fact ever since the discovery of the use of anaesthetics, surgeons all over the world have been experimenting and searching for a means of conducting operations painlessly without the necessity of anaesthizing patients into insensibility. One very good reason for this is that a number of people are so constituted that they cannot take anaesthetics without considerable danger. It seems, however, that painless surgery has recently become an accomplished fact. Surgeons in the chief military hospitals in Milan, Italy, have been employing phenol so successfully that many operations have been performed while the patient had complete consciousness, and yet no pain was experienced. In this plan the line of incision is marked with phenol by dipping a sterilized scalpel into it and using the back of the point as a marker. After the lapse of a few seconds the knife is again dipped into the phenol and the tissues are cut with a slow and gentle up and down movement. What happens is that a film of phenol is formed on the tissues as they are cut. Frequent dippings are necessary to maintain the film.

Regina's Wealth

The net assessment of the city of Regina has been set at almost forty-three millions of dollars.

AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL

Alberta Fence Legislation

Following a lengthy discussion the Alberta legislature, sitting as a committee of the whole, last Tuesday cut out of the new consolidated law relating to domestic animals the provision that "a fence surrounding growing crops in process of being harvested shall not be deemed a lawful fence unless it is situated at least eight feet from such a crop." The principal objection was raised by J. H. Kemmis (opposition) Pincher Creek, who pointed out that the provision would work a hardship on ranchers and farmers who already had their land ploughed right up to the fences, and crops sown. He said that the conditions were so varying in different sections of the province and even in the same section that to lay down this hard and fast rule would work a hardship. After much argument over the point, the house agreed and the eight-foot limit was cut out.

Seed Wheat in Alberta

According to an order that was issued by the Canadian Wheat Board, in order that the concession that has been made in the price of seed wheat to farmers in the dried-out areas of Alberta, the wheat must be shipped from the elevators by March 31. It is considered, however, by the Seed Purchasing Commission that this limit is altogether too short, especially now that there is an embargo in force owing to the railway car congestion. It is understood that efforts will be made to extend the date.

From inquiries made recently there are a large number of applications being made for this seed, which will be purchased through the various municipalities. As previously mentioned, the reduced price is $2.45 a bushel.

Sunflower Silage

That the sunflower silage will double the carrying capacity of Alberta land, was fully demonstrated to a party of business men and ranchers from Calgary and southern Alberta, who visited the C.P.R. Supply Farm at Strathmore recently. The test was carried out with 40 Holstein cows who were rationed on corn, peas and oats and sunflower silage for a period of two weeks. The results were made known and the following is the results of these series of tests:

Silage	Daily milk yield per cow	Butterfat test	Gain in weight animal (per day)
Sunflowers	27.24 lbs.	3.6	2 lbs.
Peas and Oats....	25.88 lbs.	3.5	1 lb.
Corn	26.4 lbs.	3.4	1.85 lbs.

Each animal was supplied with 30 pounds of the silage a day curing the test besides being fed a certain amount of loose feed which was exactly the same for each cow.

Farm Literature in Demand

An Ottawa despatch says: A veritable flood of applications for farm literature is reported from the offices of the commission of conservation. Recently the department printed a third edition of 15,000 account books given free to farmers, and, before the issue was off the press every copy had been applied for. An issue published in French was similarly taken up. Department officials declare it to be a sudden wave of recognition on the part of farmers that business and scientific principles are essential to the success of modern farm life.

Against Hearst

Many prominent American citizens are campaigning against William Randolf Hearst and the attitude of his publications.

Drunkenness No Excuse

The British House of Lords has recently ruled that the influence of drink is no excuse for murder. A man named Beard was condemned to death for killing a thirteen year old girl whilst he was drunk. The criminal court of appeal reduced the crime to manslaughter, but the House of Peers thought otherwise and reversed this decision. It is, however, thought that Beard will not be hanged.

Holland's Attitude

The Dutch parliament a few days ago voted adherence to the League of Nations.

Toronto Tragedy

News comes from Toronto of a dreadful affair whereby a whole family of four lost their lives. A man named Albert Foster was working with a can of benzine near the kitchen fire where his wife was preparing dinner. A spark from the stove must have ignited it, and it exploded, killing the mother and two children. Foster himself died from his injuries the same day.

The Administration of Estates is Our Business

If you are interested in the estate of a deceased person as Executor, Heir, Creditor or otherwise, and wish assistance in having the estate administered, consult us.

We are handling estates every day of the year and consequently can place at your disposal the experience, facilities and service necessary to insure satisfaction, with the minimum of charge.

Wills prepared and consultation free of charge.

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In every locality not already represented. Write us for particulars.

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Capital Paid-up - $1,500,000 Reserve - $1,600,000
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Irma Cash Meat Market

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KIPPERS

L. C. HATCH, Prop.
Irma, Alberta.

Do We Take Small Accounts?

We do more than that. We invite them—welcome them—and take good care of them. If you wish to open a Savings Account for any particular purpose — or wish to teach the children to save by having an account in each child's name—do not hesitate to do so because the amounts to be deposited will be small. $1. is sufficient to open a Savings Account, and deposits of $1. are always welcome.

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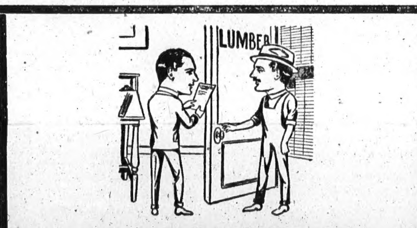

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P. J. HARDY, Manager — IRMA, Alberta

A TRUE STORY TOLD IN RHYME.

Think just what you like, Tom,
I'm sure it can be done:
Why, the rent we're paying month by month
Would easily build a home.
Why! Just see the figures here, Tom,
Isn't it awful what we pay,
Let's make a start tonight, Tom,
And we'll own our home some day.

Come see us and let us show you how easily you can build a home for yourself.

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IRMA, ALBERTA.
T. H. FLEMING, Manager, Irma, Alta.

SPORT DOPE (By Buck)
(In good faith and without prejudice.)

In our last weeks issue we mentioned Trotskie drilling for oil. One day lately we wereu suprised to learn that he had struck Ool at'200 ft and we were about to take shares in the new well when one of our number caught Trotskie pouring—Coal Oil in the hole—and now we know where our Coal Oil goes.

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Its funny what some women will do. The other day a young lady entered one of our local stores and asked if they kept invisible hair nets. On geing informed that they did she asked to see one.

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A fellow who never goes anywhere, never looks around, never sees any place except where he was born, never thinks there's any better place and never tries to find it—well he's got all thats coming to him in this world.

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A grass widow is like a grasshopper, they will both jump at the first chance.

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Look at the old maid
She dresses like she was twenty
Talks like she was thirty
Looks like she was fourty.
Hasn't got any more sense
Than if she was ten

* * * *

I have a secret, but I swore I wouldn't tell it to a human being. Listen: I want to ask you an answer—what is the question?

More or Less Funny

An editor who wrote up a wedding in the following way, is now hiding in a cave while his wife brings him food at night, making believe that he is feeding the hogs:

"John Punkin and Ida Ida Sauerkraut were united last week at the home of the bride's parents. The groom is a very ordinary young fellow who was kicked out of school for playing truant and has spent most of his time loafing around town ever since. The bride is eexceptionally plain looking, and has spent her early life lying abed mornings while her mother did the housework. They will board around on relatives while the groom looks for a job. A hard life is predicted for them by their many friends.

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Prohibition may have softened the drinks down quite a bit, but it is said that when a young fellow tried to kiss a young lady after the dance at Wainwright lat week he found there was plenty of "kick" in it.

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One of the fellows around here who used to like his little nip now and then before the prohibition laws went into effect, called at a lawyer's office one day last weekand said he would like to take up the study of law. "You're getting pretty old for that," sad the lawyer, "what do you want to study law for?" "Well," he replied, "I saw in the papers the other day that lawyers are admitted to the bar."

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A single man gets cold feet when he read the jokes about hubby having to pay $50 or $60 for his wife's hat But the truth of the matter is that most of the hats you see women wearing cost $5 and $10

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Thoughts fo a Country Maiden

I'm often called a simqle maid
And of the city dudes afraid.
Milking cows and shooing chickens,
And never raising any dickings.
These wise birds all have got me wrong,
For joy rides I am very strong.
I love the smell of gasolene,
The pep and jazz of Jack's machines.
And as for bring in the milk,
I'd rather hear the swish of silk.
Oh, no, I never stay out late,
Except when I and cousin Kate,
Go to a dance with Bill and Pete,
And whirl around until our feet,
Can scarcely touch the dusty floor,
When someone says its half-past four
Where do they get this "simple stuff"
My motto is to treat-em-rough.
The city girls can shoot their line,
I'll take the country town for mine.

—Henry Gee

* * *

A mule when kicking,makes no progress, this is also true of man. A person who is continually finding fault with everybody and everything progresses very slowly. It keeps him busy looking for faults in his neighbors, who by hard work, gradually forges to the front. Jealously then steps in and takes a hand in the game. The man who has spent all his time kicking and has made no progress cannot understand why he s left behind and at once condemns his neighbor as a crook, regardless of the many hours of toil he has spent. Look about you and see if this is not true in many instances.—Ex.

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Here are a few of the difficulties of the English language: A flock of ships is called a fleet: a fleet of sheep is called a flock; a flock of girls is called a bevy; a bevy of wolves is called a pack; a pack of thieves is is called a gang; a gang of angels is called a host: a host of porpoises is called a shoal; a shoal of buffaloes is called a herd; a herd of children is called a troupe; a troop of partridges is called a covey; a covey of beauties is called a galaxy; a galaxy of ruffians is called a horde, a horde of rubbish is called a heap; a heap of oxen is caled a drove; a drove of blackguards is called a mob; a mob of whales is called a school; a school of worshipers is called a congregation.

MAIL CONTRACT

SEALED TENDERS, adressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday the 8th April, 1921 for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed contract for four years, twelve times per week on the route Jarrow and Rail-way Station (G. T. P.) from the 1st July next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Jarrow and at the office of the Post Office Inspector:

Post Office Inspector's Office, Edmonton, Alberta, 25th February,1921:

A. W. Cairns
Post Office Inspector.

SHERIFF'S SALE

Pursuant to the order of his Honour, Judge Taylor, there will be offered for Sale, with the approbation of a Judge, by John Rae, Acting Sheriff, or his Bailiff, at the Co-operative Hall, Irma, Alberta, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23rd, 1921

the following land:

Part of the south east Quarter of Section Thirty-Four (34) in Township Forty-Five (45), in Range Ten (10), West of the Fourth (4) Meridian excepting mines and minerals.

Consisting approximately of 137.7 acres, and is situated two and a half miles from the Hamlet of Jarrow, having thirty acres under cultivation; the land is ll fenced except one side which faces the lake. There is a small house on the farm, valued at $175.00, and a small barn, valued at $75.00. The soil is clay loam with a clay sub-soil.

The property will be offered for sale without a reserve bid; the highest bidder shall be the purchaser. The purchaser will be required to pay done a deposit of ten per cent. (10) of the purchase price at the time of the sale and the balance within sixty (60) days to the Sheriff to the credit of this cause; and upon payment of the said sum the purchaser shall be entitled to a vesting order in the said land.

The purchaser shall take the property subject to all unpaid assessments rates nd taxes, and in all other respects upon the terms and conditions of the Court as approved by a Judge.

Further particulars may be had at my office, or at the office of Cliffton G. Purvis, Solicitors, Viking, Alberta

Dated this 25th day of February, A. D. 1921.

JOHN RAE, Acting Sheriff
4-8-11-18

PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

The Times has been printed nearly four years. During this time the cost of paper has advanced from $35.00 per ton to $250.00 per ton. Ink, type, composition and labor and all material used to produce the paper has been increasing ever since The Times was started. Our subscription price has never changed from the original price of $1.50 per year. Several of our subscribers are in arrears. If you are one of them kindly pay your subscription at once so we can continue sending you The Times. There isa strong probability that we will have to raise the price of our subscription to $2.00 per year. In fact if prices do not soon start to come down this will be absolutely necessary if we are to continue. Now aas never before Irma and district needs a paper to keep boosting the district as Irma is in the limelight throughout the whole continent. To all who are paid in advance, and who will pay up at once we will continue to deliver the Times at the old price.

Wants, Notices Strays, Etc.

BRAND NOTICE.

u Cattle branded OL (half circle underneath) are the property of H.W. LOVE, IRMA. Kindly notify and they will be taken away.

HAY FOR SALE, BALED—$14.00 per ton, F.O.B., Irma.—A. Weinwrinch Irma, Alta. 49-53p

FOR SALE—one pure bred barred rock rooster. Apply Mrs. John G. Rae, Irma. 2tp

STRAYED—from S. E. 2-45-10 one eight year old bay mare and colt. One two year old bay mare, Branded (inverted Y bar above) right jaw. H. Berkjhold 48-52C

STRAYED—to S. E. 36-44-10-4 1 Black or dark brown gelding white stripe in face, left hind foot white weight about 1250 Branded inverted five J on right shoulder.
50-2c M Fluvog, Irma

STRAYED—to 16-46-8-4 one 2 year old red steer stub horn on left side no visible brand, weight about 900 or 1000 lbs.
50-2c F. J. Yonker, Irma

SADDLES—wanted two light riding saddles.
50-52p. Peterson, Irma

FOR SALE—Cream Separator, De-Laval No. 12. nearly new. 1 Gurney-Oxford range, in good condition.—T. Shaw, Irma. 50-2p

FOR SALE—2 pure bred Hereford Bulls, good growthy fellows, good enough for any herd headers. Such breeding as: Royal Alvin, ire Royal Fairfax: dam Della; sire Alvin Fairfax; dam Miss Brae 26th; sire Denver, dam Adela.—Earl Moore, Jarrow, Alta
50-2p

STRAYED—to 13-45-10-4 1 Black mare about 8 yrs old. 2white hind feet weight about 1050. Branded on Right shoulder.

1 Iron Grey Fillie 2 yrs old, white hind feet, no brand, about 700 lbs.

1 Bay Gelding, star in forehead black ponits about 1200 lbs. Branded split Key E right hip; 1 white gelding with grey knees about ten yrs old weight about 1000 lbs. G over O over dash on right shoulder.

1 Mare, white hind feet, star on face white nose, wire cut on right hock, S J on right shoulder, weight about 1100 lbs; 1 Bay Mare about 2 years old, white hind feet, right left front foot, wire cut on right hock No brand
50-2c Kasten Bros., Irma

FOR SALE—Pure Red Bobs from Seager Wheeler stock, cleaned, per bushel $4.00. This matured in 90 days last year and yielded 50 bushels per acre.

Kitchener Wheat, this is a large-berried wheat and a heavy yielder, matures same time as Marquis. Some heads have over 70 grains. Cleaned $2.50 per bushel.

I will deliver orders in Irma. Bags extra, 25c.

T. PAUL RICHMOND,
Hardisty, Alberta.
50-3

FOR SALE—very good grade Aberdeen Angus Bull, rising one yr; rugged and growthy, will make good sire. Price right.—G. A. Sisson & co.
51-3c

"LETTERS FROM THE FRONT"

Few war books published in any country can compare in excellence of taste and beauty of workmanship with this memorial volume recently published by The Canadain Bank of Commerce; nor have we seen one more thoroughly permeated with the noble spirit which inspired so many thousands of young Canadians to go forth and do battle for the survival of liberty and humanity in this world.

A preface by Sir John Aird, General Manager, shows how heavy a toll the War took of the Nation-wide institu- widely ramified though it be, focusses attention on the sacrifices made by the Dominion as a whole.

In scanning the list of names it is impossible to overlook the large number of enlistments from the Western Branches of the Bank, once more illustrating how completely the spirit of the West coincided with the patriotism and sacrifice that was kindled thrughout the British Empire by the War.

To the lover of well-made books "Letters from the Front" is a joy indeed, and its publication was undertaken as a tribute due to those whose services it records. It will not be placed on sale; but it is a souvenir gift from The Canadian Bank of Commerce to the relatives of the fallen, and to those lads of equal bravery who "came through".

Business Directory

IRMA L.O.L. No. 2066
Meets on the last Thursday of each month in the Co-op Hall. Visitors always welcome.
J. S. Yarr, W. M.
W. Ketchen, R. S.
S. J. Brown, . S.

Meetings are held every Tuesday evening in the Co-op Hall at 8 P.M. Visiting brethren welcome.
N. G. A. S. Knapp.
V. G. N. M. Matheson.
Sec'y Chas. Wilbraham.

ROYAL BLACK PRECEPTORY NO. 1036.
Meets on the second Monday of each month in the Co-op Hall. Visiting Sir Knights always welcome.
J. W. Graydon, W. P.
Dr. S. R. McGregor, Reg.
J. W. Wyatt, Treas.

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NO Smoking—No Spraying—No Snuff
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to restore normal breathing, stop mucus gatherings in the bronchial tubes, give long nights of quiet sleep; contains no habit-forming drug. $1.00 at your druggist's. Trial free at our agencies or write Templetons, 142 King W., Toronto.
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Just a limited amount to be cleared at a reduced price.
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Good Oil and Gas lease on royalty basis in Irma field. Give location and date filed.
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Cows	3 to 6c
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Irma, Alberta.

H. G. Thunell, Publisher.
H. W. Love, Editor.

An independent newspaper published every Friday at Irma, Alberta Can.

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THE WORLDS WHEAT SITUATION

Sir James Wilson, K. C. S. I., in a recent article, deals very fully with the Wheat supplies of the world, as shown by the official statistics published by the International Institute of Agriculture. The following are the conclusions he arrives at regarding the world's wheat supplies and needs. The figures which represented quintals in the original article, have been converted to bushels in the Institute Branch.

Excluding Russia and Ronmania (which on pre-war average exported annually 217,000,000 bushels, or nearly one third the world's net exports) and India (export from which country was then practically prohibited), the other exporting countries began the cereal year on the 1st of August, 1919, with about 224,000,000 bushels of exportable surplus still in hand, besides there was the unusually large quantity of 70,000,000 bushels afloat on its way from the exporting to the importing country. During the cereal year ending with July, 1920, the exporting countries exported 690,000,000 bushels compared with 665,000,000, the pre-war average net export of all exporting countries, including Russia, and ended the year on 31st July, 1920, with only about 100,000,000 bushels of exportable surplus, besides which there were 77,000,000 bushels afloat. Of the importing countries, Britain, France and Italy (which on the pre-war average imported 312,000,000 bushels), imported in 1919-20 no less than 382,000,000 bushels, and other European countries imported (including relief supplies) about 195,000,00 bushels as compared with 231,00,000 before the war. All the importing countries taken together imported 670,000,000 bushels or about the same quantity as their pre-war average imports,, and the most important of them ended the cereal year on 1st August, 1920, with their normal carry over. During that year the Argentine and Australia got rid of the greater part of there embarrassing surpluses, which had accumulated mainly owing to lack of tonnage; indeed ,the Argentine oversold and had to prohibit further export in order to retain enough wheat for home consumption. Towards the end of the cereal year the United States had a practical monopoly of export, and took advantage of the situation to obtain very high prices for large exports.

After 1st August, 1920, Britain reaped a poor crop, only about equal to the pre-war average. The measures taken to reduce the bread subsidy raised the price of the 4 lb. loaf from 9½d. to 1s. 4d., which must have some effect in reducing consumption; and the import of wheat during the current cereal year ending with July, 1921 seems likely to be about the pre-war average, say 220,000,000 bushels, as compared with about 212,000,000 last year. France has reaped a much better harvest than in the previous year, and both Government and people are making strenuous efforts to reduce consumption; she may be content with 18,000,000 bushels of import as compared with 88,000,000 last year. Italy has ha a very poor crop, and although the Government have taken measures to reduce consumption, she may have to import about 90,000,000 bushels compared with 85,000,000 bushels last year. The other Eauropean countries have on the whole had better crops than last year, and as the cost of foreign wheat measured in their depreciated paper curencies is still very high they may content themselves with an import of 202,000,000 bushels, as compared with 195,000,000 last year. Allowing for countries outside Europe 90,00,000 bushels, or the same as last year, the import during the current cereal year of all the importing countries in the world may be roughly estimated at 625,000,000 bushels, as compared with 670,000,000 last year.

Turning to the exporting countries. The United States though it has had a smaller yeild than last year, has (including 30,000,000 bushels of old wheat) an exportable surplus of 195,000,000 bushels. Canada has had an exceptionally good crop, and can spare a similar quantity. The Argentine and Australia are now reaping good harvests, and can probably spare 130,000,000 and 110,000,000 bushels. Bulgaria can spare 11,00,000 bus. and the Government are allowing the export of at least 15,000,000 bus. out of India's large surplus from the excellent harvest reaped last may. These mae a total of 655,000,000 bus., and as the quantity afloat on 1st August 1920, exceeded the normal by 40,000,000 bus., it may be estimated that there will be 695,000,000 bus. available to meet the demand of all the importing countries, which I hve estimated at 625,000,000 bus. This will leave on 1st August, 1921, 70,000,000 bus. of old wheat (beside the normal carry over) in the exporting countries, and 36,000,000 bus. afloat— a sufficient though not excessive, margin on the eve of the ripening of the new harvests in the Northern hemisphere.

It is greatly to the advantage of the importing countries that all five of the principal exporting countries have large surpluses to dispose of and will compete with each other. It is also noticeable that Britain, the chief importer, has already since 1st August, 1920, imported half her requirements for the year, and is at present, including her own harvest, well stocked with wheat, so that she can afford to wait for the new wheat which will soon become available from the Argentine an Australia.

During the last six months there has been a marke fall in ocean freights, as was to be expected from the rapid increase in the quontity of tonnage available, owing to new launchings and the completion of re-conditioning and repairs. Many new ships are still being launched, and it seems probadle that by 1st July, 1921, the world's steamer tonnage will be approximately 60,000,000 tons as compared with 45,000,000 at the outbreak of the war, while the demand for cargo space will still be less than the pre-war average demand. A further fall in ocean freights therefor seem probable. The fall, which has already taken place has made it possible for the importing countries to offer higher prices for their wheat to the Argentine and Australia, while reducing the c.i.f. cost of imported wheat, and enabled the British Government to reduce the price charged to millers for foreign wheat a measure which may soon be expected to have the effect of reducing the price to the consumer of the British 4 lb. loaf.

Owing no doubt to this improvement in the wheat position from the point of veiw of the importing countries, and to the consequent relaxation of their urgent demand for the wheat from North America, there has been in the United States and Canada a very marked fall from the monopoly price they were enabled to charge six month ago, though prices are still about double what they were before the war. They are still fluctuating somewhat violently, owing to the uncertainties of the future, among which may be reckoned the probable action of the Government of India. India has undoubtedly a large surplus of wheat which she would normlly export, but this would lead to a serious rise in the price of wheat in India; and as the coming wheat harvest, to be reaped in may, promises to be poor, the Government may refuse to permit the evport of more than 15,000,000 bus. now being purchase for export. On the other hand, the wheat is there, and it would be very profitable for the holders if export were allowed, and if the winter rins prove favorable, the Government may permit a considerable export before 1st August next. It must also be remembered in probability millions of peasants in Russia now hold quantities of wheat they would be glad to sell to the highest bidder, and it is just possible that arrangements may be made to permit of the export of a considerable quantity before next August. If either or both of these events happen, a fnrther fall in the world's price of wheat would probably take place.

Latest reports as to conditions in Russia indicate that it is not at all likely there will be any considerable quantity of wheat exported from that country during the present grain year. On December 15th drought still prevaled in India, making additional exports improbable.

KINSELLA NEWS

Mr. J. H. Smith has now taken the agency for the Melatte cream separators in Kinsella and having been in the dairy supplies before, he knows the value of a goo separator. Farmers that consider buying a separator this spring would do well to visit Mr. Smith and investigate the merits of the Melotte.

EDMONTON GAS MUDDLE.

We have near Viking one of the largest natural gas fields in America. There are nine gas wells finished and the tenth nearing completion and the average flow from them is above four million cubic feet per day. These lie from three to nine miles north and east of town. There has been no dry holes drilled. Forty miles to the southeast of these wells is the big Grattan Well near Irma and fifty miles to the northwest natural gas was found many years ago. This is all one field the limits of which have not been determined but it is known to extend over thousands of square miles. There is enough gas territory proven to be absolutely certain of supplying Edmonton with gas for decades to come even were she to grow in population ten times what she has today.

Edmonton needs this gas. She is the only large city of Canada without either manufactured or natural gas. Every day's delay in getting this gas piped to Edmonton means a very great loss to her citizens. It means a loss to the capital tied up in the wells and it means a big loss to the Viking district as it retards development of this immense gas and oil field.

The Northern Alberta Gas Development Co. made an agreement with the City of Edmonton in 1916 to deliver gas from the Viking field to the City and sell it at a rate of 25c per 1000 cubic feet. They drilled these ten wells but so far have laid no pipeline to the City. They claim prices for material and labour have gone up to such an extent that a 25c rate will not meet interest on the actual cost of pipeline and unless they are allowed to charge a much higher rate for gas they cannot get capital to build it.

Several attempts have been made to come to a new agreement between the company and the city and twice the burgesses of Edmonton have turned down by-laws embodying new terms.

There is not only a deadlock between the compny and the City but the City is about to ask the Legislature to declare the original agreement null and void.

The rupture between the Northern Alberta Gas Co. and Edmonton is complete. Edmonton will not deal further with this company. We do not believe the causes of the rupture between the City and the Company have anything to do with the increased rate asked for by the company. The citizens of Edmonton would willingly pay 50c per 1000 cu. ft. if it can be shown that that is the cheapest price gas can be sold at and allow a fair dividend on the actual money invested in the necessary wells, pipeline, biuldings, etc. to give efficient service to the City but they will not agree to pay even a 30c rate if they know they are being mulcted to pay dividends on a lot of watered stock.

The only solution we believe is for a new company to be organized to take over the wells and gas leases of the Northern Alberta Gas Co. at a valuation and make a new agreement with Edmonton similar to the agreement between the Consumers' Gas Co. of Toronto and that city. The Consumers' Gas Co. of Toronto is a stock company and has been in operation for 72 years during which time it has had most friendly relations with the City of Toronto. For fifty-seven years this company has paid quarterly dividends at the rate of ten percent per annum. There are no bonds, preferred shares or watered stock in its capital investment and the people of Toronto knowing they are getting a square deal are satisfied to pay now $1.25 per thousand cu. ft. for their gas. Before the war the price was as low as 70 cents.

By statute the Consumers' Gas Co. of Toronto is entitled to pay a dividend of 10 per cent per annum and to sell gas at a price sufficient to asssure this rate.

The Gas used in Toronto has to be manufactured from coal and oil which accounts for the high rate that has to be charged for it. This manufactured Gas is only 60 per cent as strong in heating value as the Viking Natural Gas. Viking Gas would be worth in Toronto a little over $2.00 per thousand cu. ft. as compared with the gas used there now. Another great pont about Viking Natural Gas is it is non-poisonous. It can be breathed for hours at a time and have no injurious effect on the human system. Manufactured gas is a deadly poison.

Gas in Toronto is used only for cooking and special manufacturing purposes and not for heating of buildings as would be the case in Edmonton The average householder in Edmonton would probably burn eight to ten times the quantity used by a Toronto householder. And it is the quntity consumed by Edmonton that should and undoubtedly will determine the price at which it can be sold in the City.

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ICE CREAM, ICE COLD SOFT DRINKS
LUNCHES AT ALL HOURS, FRUITS IN SEASON
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO AUTO PARTIES

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A CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ANNUITY PROVIDES IT
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C-L-O-S-I-N-G O-U-T
AUCTION SALE

Having been instructed by the Owner I will sell by Public Auction Horses, Cattle, Farm Implements, etc. at N. E. Quarter Sec. 14-45-10-w4th 5 miles south-west of Irma

Wednesday, March 23rd.

LUNCH AT NOON. SALE AT 11 SHARP

22 HEAD OF HORSES

Team Grey Mares, rising 7 years old, weight 2900
Team Black Mares, rising 8 years old, weight 2800
Team Black Mare and Gelding, rising 5 years old, weight 2800
Team Black Mare and Gelding, rising 5 years old, weight 2500
Team Grey Mare and Gelding, rising 5 and 6 years, weight 2700
Team Grey and Black Mares, rising 9 years old, weight 2600
Team Heavy Bay Geldings, rising 12 yrs old, weight 3100
Grey Gelding, rising 4 years old, weight 1150
Two Black Filly Colts, rising 3 yrs old, weight 1800 each
Black Filly Colt, rising 2 yrs old, weight 900
Black Gelding, rising 8 yrs old, weight 1500
Black Saddle Horse, rising 9 yrs old, weight 1100
Grey Mare, rising 7 yrs old, weight 1500
Black Mare, rising 12 yrs old, weight 1200

19 HEAD OF CATTLE

Registered Shorthorn Bull, rising 6 years old
Three Cows, rising 8 yrs; Cow rising 7 yrs; Cow rising 5 yrs; Cow, rising 4 yrs; Steer rising 3 yrs; Two Yearling Steers Two Yearling Heifers; Seven 1920 Calves.
HARNESS—Set Breeching Harness;3 sets other work harness.

IMPLEMENTS ETC.

8 ft McCormick Binder; New Deer Mower; Deering Hay Rake; Sulky Plow (Janesville) Stubble and breaker bottom Hay Buncher attachment for Mower; 14inch John Deere Gang Plow; Walking Plow; 15 ft set lever Harrow; 14 disc Disc Harrow; Plow Harrow; 12 dise Disc Harrow; Harrow Cart; Single 18 disc Cockshutt Drill; Heavy Wagon, double box; One pair 2 inch Bob Sleighs; Hay Rack; Iron Truck wagon and box; Gould Shapeley & Muir 4 1-2 h. p. Gas Engine; 8 inch Champion Plate Chopper and Belt; Horse Clipper; Two grindstones; two jack screws; Combination bench vice, Carpenters tools, etc., Small forge, and anvil, and other blacksmith tools; Two tank heaters; one coal and dwood heater, one box stove; Stove drum and pipes, Cream Separator (Tubber) Water Barrel; 30 ft 12 inch rubber belting, roll chicken wire; wheel barrow; Hog crate; shipping gasoline drum, forks, shovels, crow bars, log chains, cow chains, whipple trees, devices, wrenches and other articles too numerous to mention.

TERMS—All articles of $15.00 and under CASH; over that amount credit will be given till Nov. 1st, 1921, on approved bankable joint notes bearing 8 percent interest. A discount of 5 percent for Cash on credit amounts.

Mrs. C. J. KNUDSON, Owner. R. J. TATE, Clerk. J. W. STUART Auctioneer.

SPORTS AFIELD

WITH ROD AND GUN IN WESTERN CANADA

True Tales of Real Experiences in the Pursuit of Game. Reminisences of Past and Nearby Days. Life in the Open Places.

A ROUGH INCIDENT IN A SHOOTING TRIP. A HEAVY SEA AROUND VANCOUVER ISLAND. SWEPT BY A BIG WAVE. SHELTER AT LAST. A PROFANE BANKER.

The beautiful city of Victoria, away west by Pacific waters, is a delightful place in which to sojourn for those who love the wide out of doors—the votaries of rod and gun, the lovers of the wild wood and the solitary places.

The forest comes down to your back door; the hills of Sooke, with a thousand lurking places for the creatures of the wild face your morning windows; and the ocean will bear you to many a romantic islet, where only the lazy lap of the sea on the beach stones, breaks upon the solitude.

Blue Grouse

Salt Spring Island lies about forty miles away, on the far side of Cowichan Bay, and is a famous hunting ground. There is a steep hill side there, that stretches for miles along the south coast of the island. It is not heavily forested, but there are many open spaces between the clumps of trees, that make a park-like effect very pleasing. This is a wonderful place for blue grouse, and when the season opens about the middle of September, a good bag may be secured any day, if you are a good walker and can hold the gun straight.

A Shooting Trip

One day a few years ago I made preparations to visit this place for the first day of the grouse shooting.

There were three of us—my friend, the manager of a local bank, a stalwart young Englishman named Page, who was in my employ, and who by the way, was a brother of Handley Page of airplane fame, and myself. We were to leave Victoria in my boat, a well-found thirty-footer, the day before the opening of the season, and camp on the island so as to be ready for the shooting with the first glimmers of daylight.

A Sea Voyage

Accordingly the boat was provisioned, made ready; and with dogs, guns and all the necessary paraphenalia we embarked at the Empress hotel steps at about three in the afternoon.

Ominous Weather

It had been raining all day but without any wind. As we came out the harbour mouth, and swung round the buoy that marked the fairway, we noticed that although there was not a breath stirring and the rain was coming down almost straight, a long ground swell was setting in from the south eastward. When we passed Brotchy Ledge and headed for Trial Island, the rain stopped, and in a few moments we could see the catspaws wrinkling the smooth bellies of the long swells. There was wind coming, and with that swell it would not take long to kick up a dirty sea.

By the time we had rounded Trial Island and had entered the Oak Bay channel, which is protected from seaward for some miles by the two islands which Vancouver named for his ships, Chatham and Discovery, there was quite a breeze blowing; the slow swell was changing to a sullen, heavy lop, and here and there a streak of foam began to appear on the wave crests.

No Sailor

My banker friend was a good man with the gun, but no sailor and the motion was somewhat disturbing him. He did not like the appearance of the water and suggested that we land at Oak Bay, and postpone our trip.

Page and I, however, laughed at him, and we held on our way.

The boat was a good one. She had about thirty feet of keel, a slightly raised cabin, and a self-baling cockpit. She was equipped with a ten-horse power heavy duty engine, and carried just enough canvass to steady her, or to claw off a lee shore. We could close her up completely except for the cockpit.

Once we had passed from the lea of Discovery Island we would be exposed to the full sweep of the southeast sea, and there were few sheltering places along the coast.

Blowing Up for Night

It looked as if it were blowing up for night, and as we wished to make a quick run, we hauled aboard the dinghy which had been towing astern, and lashed it on the after combing with some copper steering wire.

A Rough Place

As we approached the rocky channel, that separated Discovery Island from Vancouver Island, we met the tide coming in. It was making against the wind, and there was a confused tumbling of the waters.

As the boat swept into the tideway, she took some giddy lurches and the banker exclaimed in alarm. I was at the wheel whilst Page was attending the engine. We had been running in shelter for some time, and I am afraid that I did not realize how much the wind had risen, or the rough weather to seaward. I attributed the motion to the action of the tide, and thought that it would improve as we came out of the channel. The banker, not familiar with the sea, was obviously nervous; and not realizing how rough it really was, I took rather an unkind pleasure in adding to his fears.

Carelessness

I had been steering carefully whilst coming through the tide rip, but I had been aching for a smoke. As soon as we passed the worst jumble of the tide and were still under the lea of the point of the island, I made preparations to light my pipe. I had got it filled but not lighted when the boat began to rise to the swing of the big waves. So far they were not breaking much but they were rolling in from seaward in long mounting squadrons, and of a size that was not a bit reassuring. The wind was almost dead astern and we were taking some dizzy staggers as we swept down the steep slopes of some of these watery valleys.

Pooped

I made several attempts to light my pipe, but as I had to catch the boat with the wheel as she sallied, I had no success. The banker, whose nerves were obvious, reproached me rather sharply for attending to such trifles. However, at last I got my match going and as I applied it to my pipe I felt the boat sally. I was not going to lose my light, however, and I let her swing just a little too far. As the tobacco began to draw, a long wave flung us sideways, and before I could catch her with the wheel, we were pooped with a solid whirl of green sea. I got her headed away again in a minute whilst we stood in the cockpit to our knees in water; but the dinghy, which lashed to the stern, had broken the wave, was torn from its place and followed the wave overboard.

A Daunting Sight

I then had a chance of looking to seaward for the first time and I must confess that with all my bravado it was a somewhat daunting spectacle. It was blowing a pretty good imitation of a gale; there was a glint of afternoon sunshine, that playing on the white crests of the swells, made a sea scene wild and tumultuous; and there was not the least doubt in the world that both the wind and the sea were rising every minute.

I called to Page who was down with the engine, "Stand by to go about; we must pick up the dinghy."

As he came out of the cabin wiping his hands on a bit of waste, he said as he looked around, "Gee, its kicked up some commotion. I thought from the swing of her that there was something doing."

But here the banker intervened. He was green with sea-sickness and apparently scared stiff. "Let the dinghy go to Hell," he said, "I think we are on the road there ourselves; let's go back or get on shore or somewhere out of this."

The Cost of a Dinghy

I gently reminded him that a dinghy was worth about sixty dollars, and that I did not feel like loosing it.

"Oh! the devil," he said, "I will pay for it; where can we make a landing?"

I told him that if he wished, we would leave the dinghy, but so far as I knew there was no place nearer than James Island, which lay six miles before us in "the dirty scud to lea."

He surveyed the tossing waters that lay between us and that haven of refuge with dismay, and implored us to find him some way to reach the shore immediately.

Harbourage

By this time we were passing Gordon Head and some formation of the shore made a little break in the wind. The tiny cove of Telegraph Bay had just been passed, and if it were possible to come about we might go up the wind to it, and shelter there. We accordingly performed the manoeuvre and succeeded in making the little harbour, where a factory of a powder works company was established.

We must have looked rather awful in our small boat in that gigantic sea, for all the employees of the place came out on the wharf to watch us come in. As we brought up alongside the wharf, the banker leaped ashore fairly spurning the boat with his feet as he did so.

"Thank God for solid land," he said.

One of the men on the wharf indicated a mooring to us and as Page and I moved our craft out to it we looked to seaward, and we saw our dinghy down to the gunwales with water, ride the summit of a big wave and then disappear.

"It is a pity to lose it," said Page, "I think we could save it."

I protested, but he begged to be allowed to go, so at last I said, "Well, if you must I will go with you; how is your engine running?"

"Like a clock," he said; and I spun the wheel and we headed out again into the smother.

An Angry Banker

As we passed the wharf we could see the banker jumping up and down like a maniac. Of course we could not hear what he was saying, but judging from his gesticulations, it must have been something pretty awful.

Saving the Dinghy

We succeeded in locating the dinghy and bore down upon it. We reached it in a little lull, and I fastened a rope to it. I had not time to make a bowline and the rope parted as a big wave hit us. Our mettle was up and we again ran down to the break in the land near Gordon Head, put about and crawled up on our dinghy in the teeth of the wind and sea.

Page was standing by the engine and I was at the wheel. I passed the waterlogged boat under our quarter, stuck a boat-hook into it, and got a sure enough bowline in the painter.

A Big Wave

This had hardly been done when a most mountainous wave made right ahead of our boat. It looked to me as high as the Union Bank in Winnipeg or the Empress hotel in Victoria. I called to Page for reverse but we were already mounting it. Most of the waves around were breaking and I could only pray that this monster would remain intact until we had surmounted it. We were going down the far side before it crumbled in foam, and we shot into the green valley in a perfect cascade of broken water. Our boat was a little too sharp in the bows anyway, and despite the fact that the engine was going full speed astern, it seemed as we would never stop going down. I don't think we ever would, had there been another big wave following; but there was not; and we swung around on the heel of the big one that had so nearly engulfed us, and brought our dinghy in triumph to the little cove.

I never knew that banks were such a real school of profanity, until I had listened to a few of the remarks with which our friend greeted us as we landed.

What about the grouse shooting?. I will tell about that another day.

—Z. M. Hamilton

"TWO'S COMPANY"

Farm Land Movement In U.S. Has Significance For Western Canada

Extraordinary Increase in Farm Values in Mid-Western States Give Impetus to Agrarian Dealing.

ASTONISHING RETURNS FROM INVESTMENTS. MANY FORTUNES MADE BY FORTUNATE OWNERS.

A tremendous boom in farm lands has been going on in the United States for the last year, and values are steadily climbing upward. It may, therefore, be instructive for us in Western Canada to take a look at the situation and consider it in relation to its possible effects upon ourselves.

During the industrial activity that grew out of the war values of city property in American manufacturing centres increased very fast, and fortunes were made in suburban acreage, building lots and business property. There was legitimate expansion and prices have kept up, and are still increasing. Then investors began to realize that farmers were reaping their harvest. All kinds of farm produce were bringing war prices; there was a fever of agrarian activity, and farmers and their wives and sons, and daughters, began to be seen at Atlantic City, Coronado Beach and other places of amusement which had hitherto been regarded as the special preserves of the rich.

Money in Farm Lands

There was money to burn in the country as the result of many months of peaceful participation in the profits of the war, and investors began to ask themselves if there was not good pickings in farm lands. It did not take long for them to find out; and almost immediately there was started a carnival of land buying, that has never been equalled since Abraham put over the first recorded land deal by purchasing a sepulchre in the land of the Children of Heth from Ephron the Hittite.

Iowa the Starting Point

This land movement commenced in the State of Iowa where there is less waste land than in almost any other portion of the Union, and after a short period it spread like a flame over all the middle western prairie States. Values went up over night, and everyone was a purchaser. Farmers who had waxed wealthy from the prices paid for their crops, their steers, their hogs, and all that their land produced, dug down into the bank accounts which it had become fashionable for them to carry, and bought from their neighbours. Local business men, bank presidents, cashiers and the like, quickly saw the demand and the profits, and jumped in with both feet. Then came the outside investor who was quickly followed by the speculator and everybody made money. They are still doing it, and there is no sign of abatement.

Great Profits

The profits were astonishing. People came to the conclusion that they had been blind in the past to the value of western farm lands, and money poured into the country.

Listen to what a few of those dealers made.

Twenty farms bought up until 1915 and then sold during the latter part of 1919 made an average gain for their owners during that time of $205 per acre; twelve farms bought from 1915 to 1917 made a gain for their owners of $181 per acre; eight farms bought in 1918 brought $80 per acre more than had been paid for them; and on forty farms bought in 1919 and then re-sold again there was an average profit of $75 per acre.

Out of 361 sales in a certain Iowa district between June and November last, 107 sold for more than $400 per acre, and thirty-five sold for $500 per acre or more.

The above figures have been taken at random from an article in the Saturday Evening Post, compiled by a well-known farm lands authority, and they are eloquent enough in all conscience.

Spreading Into Canada

There are indications that this movement is spreading across the line into Western Canada.

By reason of our geographical position, and the fact that we have many farmers of American origin who are in constant communication with their friends and relatives, tilling our prairie soil and making money at it, makes us more or less sensitive to agrarian movements in what are known as the middle western states. A great portion of our arable land from the Red River to the Rocky Mountains is as productive as the average lands of the middle western states, and portions of it, such as the Red River Valley, the Indian Head district and the Regina Plains can give many of the farms south of the line big odds, and beat them at the game of production. Then again under the exchange conditions which prevail at present, the American land buyer gets a premium on his money when he brings it into Canada. He is shrewd too and it is not at all likely that he will overlook the advantages which are offered here where the best agricultural land today does not sell for a tithe of what is obtainable in his own country.

Under these conditions there does not appear to be the least doubt in the world that the present season in Western Canada will see one of the largest land movements in the history of the country, and that too at most excellent prices.

Melville Manufactory

A foreigner with a name of tremendous length was arrested in Melville a few days ago for making intoxicants in contravention of the law. He was convicted and fined four hundred dollars.

Biggest Boy

News comes from Stratford, Ontario, of the death of Lennie Mason, who was claimed to be the biggest boy in the world. He was only sixteen years of age and tipped the scales at 420 pounds.

CURRENT COMMENT

ON MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST TO DWELLERS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES OF CANADA

A SERIES OF ARTICLES DEALING WITH VARIOUS WESTERN QUESTIONS

IRISH SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT

Quite the most significent happening of the week has been the announcement by Sir Edward Carson that he is prepared to accept the provisions of the new Home Rule Bill at present before the British Parliament. While so far this is only the personal attitude of Sir Edward himself, there is little doubt that it will be followed by the great majority of the Unionists of the north who have hitherto acknowledged him as leader.

This is the first ray of light that has appeared on the Irish firmament for a very long time, and there are other indications of a peaceful settlement at last. Some of the recent outrages which have been perpetrated in the name of the Sinn Feiners, have had a considerable effect in impressing upon many Irishmen of strong Nationalist views that something must be done at once to allay the agitation that has been distracting the country; and taking it all in all there seems to be a general disposition to hasten a settlement.

Under the bill there will be two Irish Parliaments, and the people of the island will have a full measure of self-government. The British colonial precedent is to be followed as far as possible.

The bill provides that Ireland will receive as a gift the entire capital value of the land purchase scheme amounting to the colossal sum of half a billion dollars, or one hundred dollars for every man, woman and child in the country.

Sir Edward Carson's announcement is the most important event in British politics that has occured for a long time.

A REMARKABLE NATIVE CROP

Agriculturaiists throughout Western Canada have been exercising themselves for some time to find a substitute for summer fallow—a crop that will clean the land, allow of cultivation, and do away with the uneconomic system of having a third of the farm unproductive each year.

Corn is of course the logical crop, but unfortunately it has not yet been possible to find a variety of corn that will withstand our northern climate, and until quite recently farming sharps have been at their wits ends to know how to deal with the situation.

One of the Alberta experimental farms seems to have gone a long way in the direction of a solution, in achieving a wonderful success with the cultivation of the common sunflower, which western farmers in the past have been in the habit of regarding as a weed.

On the farm in question it has been cultivated for silage with astonishing results. There was water available for irrigation, but the sun flower field only required one watering whilst oats and peas, and corn had to be irrigated twice.

Under this treatment oats and peas yielded seven tons to the acre, while fodder corn produced about double that amount. Now listen to what the sunflower crop did. It gave a return of thiry-four tons to the acre, and most excellent fodder at that.

Careful feeding experiments have proved that it is not only equal to corn as a silage crop but gives better results.

Sunflowers are specially constituted to stand dry weather and their cultivation serves most of the purposes of summer-fallow. At the experimental farm in question the crop last season stood fourteen feet high.

The sunflower seed is sown three feet apart in rows, and this may be done with an ordinary drill by plugging up some of the spouts. From twelve to fifteen pounds of seed is sown to the acre.

Sunflowers are apparently a crop native to all of Western Canada, and are peculiarly adapted to semi-arid districts—if local pride will allow the admission that we have any. It is, therefore, possible that its cultivation may revolutionize agriculture in the west and add another value to our already valuable lands.

SUPREME SELF-SACRIFICE

The other days a short item appeared in the daily papers in Western Canada telling how Mrs. Forsyth, the wife of a farmer on a lonely homestead, had been frozen to death. There was only a short paragraph, and little was said to indicate that this woman was one of the martyrs of the prairie, who, with unselfish devotion have given their lives for others.

She was living on an isolated farm, about twenty-five miles north of Tompkins, on the main line of the C.P.R. with her husband and family. The neighbor's wife was seriously ill. Neither doctor nor nurse was available for the constant attendance required; and Mrs. Forsyth made many a journey across the prairie to aid and assist the sick woman.

One day, a little over a week ago, after doing the laborious work of her own household, she prepared to walk across the prairie on her ministering mission. She was by no means in good health herself, but she did not shrink from this act of self-sacrifice. She told her family that if the patient were very ill she would not return that night, and saying good-bye to them, she closed the door of her own house for the last time.

She found the poor sick woman somewhat improved in condition, and after remaining with her some hours and making her as comfortable as possible, she decided to return home where her own family required her attention.

In the meantime, the wind had been rising and the temperature falling, and when she commenced her homeward walk, she had to face the attacks of the elements. Almost with every step the storm increased, but she was a prairie woman and had seen many a blizzard before; so she plodded on resolutely.

When she did not arrive home that night, no alarm was felt as she had declared her intention of remaining away until morning.

The following day, however, the household went to the neighbors and were horror-stricken to find she had left in the teeth of the storm. The neighbors were aroused and a search instituted, and her dead body was found in the snowwreathe hardly a hundred steps from her own door.

Mrs. Forsyth perished in performing an act of self-sacrifice —in an attempt to relieve the sufferings of others. She is entitled to an enduring place among the women of this western country.

BEYOND THE VEIL

At the present time there appears to be a great deal of speculation rife, as to what lies beyond the grave. Many scientific people are not content to rest themselves in simple faith on the promise of Holy Writ. They are seeking for a natural explanation.

Sir Oliver Lodge, one of the greatest psychologists of the present age, has been conducting a number of investigations as to life after death, and has evolved a theory of his own which he claims is backed by good evidence.

The evidence, however, which appeals to him, seems to the ordinary lay mind to have many flaws in it. He declares that, as the result of his investigations, he has come to the conclusion that humanity has two forms—the material form, which is mortal, and the ether form, which is immortal. He claims that through the means of mediums, he has been in touch with many of those who have departed this life, and has learned much from them.

The ether form, he says, which is undiscernable to the human eye, except under extraordinary conditions, is very similar to the mortal form, and those who wear it in the world beyond find it much more convenient.

Dr. Conan Doyle, the great novelist, also stoutly affirms that he is convinced of similar conditions, and the possibility of communicating with those who have passed from this world.

There are a host of others.

As a matter of fact, with all our advancement, and all our science, and all our civilization, humanity has not yet been able to take one step across the borderland which divides us from the world of shadows.

Scientists may talk, advance their evidence and make other computations, but we know literally nothing that is convincing from a scientific standpoint.

Our enlightenment and civilization so far has not been able to improve upon the ancient promise made to God's chosen people of life after death, and that our future happiness shall depend upon our own deserts.

To our poor humanity, looking for rest and relief from the turmoils and tribulations of this world, there is nothing so beautiful and comforting as this promise. Death is the great enemy. It is the ultimate, that may be achieved against a human being,and those who have sufficient faith to be able to face it with equanimity and hope, are certainly the happiest of mortals. There is something splendid and victorious in the ritual which the Anglican Church prescribes for the service over the dead, when it says:

Oh Grave, where is thy sting!
Oh Death, where is they victory!"

It is the battle cry of the Christain who triumphs over the limitations of mankind.

With all our learning, and with all our civilization, we have never yet learned anything that can take the place of the Christian creed.

ASTONISHING FIGURES ON ALBERTA LIQUOR TRAFFIC

During a speech which he recently made in the Alberta Legislature, Attorney General Boyle made the following interesting remarks about the Alberta liquor traffic:

Taking the year 1919 as the best test of prohibitory laws under the restrictive statutes of the province, Hon. Mr. Boyle showed that by conservative calculation the profits made by the sale of liquor legally equalled at least $2,150,317, while he estimated that profits made by bootleggers and illegal still operation amounted to another $3,500,000. His figures showed that the actual profits in the liquor business legally and otherwise, must have been considerably greater than the calculations presented to the house.

REUNION OF 68th BATTALION

Preparations are being made for a reunion of the 68th Battalion, which will take place in Regina early in March.

Those responsible for the reunion are anxious to have as many former members of the Battalion as possible, come to Regina on this occasion.

The 68th Battalion was recruited during the summer of 1915, and left for overseas on Easter Sunday, 1916.

Col. Edgar, was then the commanding officer, but on being appointed to the command of Military District No. 12, his position was taken by Col. Perrett, who took the Battalion overseas.

It did not preserve its identity on reaching England, but was broken into various drafts.

Those desirous of attending this reunion should apply to Captain Fraser Stewart, assistant city solicitor of Regina, or to Captain John Anderson, of the firm of Anderson, Lunney & Co., Regina.

A splendid programme has been arranged, and there is no doubt that every one participating in the reunion will have a good time.

Workers Wanted

The Saskatchewan Bureau of Labour is looking for five thousand men to cope with the demand for spring farm labor. The wages being paid this year by farmers averages seventy to eighty dollars per month and married couples are being offered from one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month for an eight month's engagement.

Perished in the Storm

A woman named Mrs. Forsythe, who lived about twenty-five miles west of the town of Tomkyns on the main line of the C.P.R. went to visit a sick neighbor a few days ago telling her family that she would not return that night. There was a blizzard blowing at the time. She did not return for a couple of days and it was found that she had started to come home the same evening. Her steps were traced and her frozen body was found within a couple of hundred yards of her home. She had been overcome by the storm.

Arrested in Winnipeg

Two men named respectively Sanford Pollett and Charles Devans, were arrested in Winnipeg a few days ago on a charge of bank robbery committed in New York. Pollett, who was a clerk in the bank, is accused of having stolen several thousand dollars to enable himself and his companion to equip themselves for a hunting trip in Canada. When arrested it is said that the police found them in possession of an elaborate hunting outfit. They had a thousand dollars in cash when searched by the police.

The PERSONAL SIDE

PROMINENT WESTERN CHARACTERS—SOME INTIMATE ANCEDOTES OF PEOPLE WE ALL KNOW

SIR JAMES AIKINS AND THE CHESTNUT

When Sir James Aikins, the present Governor of Manitoba, was a leader of the western bar, the business of his profession occasionally called him to Regina. Some twenty years ago Mrs. Richardson, the wife of the late Judge Richardson, often extended the hospitality of her home to a few of the visiting lawyers who interested her. She was a semi-invalid and seldom went abroad, but she was witty and entertaining and on occasion exceedingly caustic in her remarks.

Mr. Aikins, as he then was, when he went to Regina, was always a welcome guest. He was then, as he is now, an amusing reconteur.

There was an important case on in Regina, and quite a number of lawyers were present in that city. Mrs. Richardson gave one of her famous little dinners to the most interesting of them. Towards the close of the repast, she turned to Mr. Aikins and said:

"What new story have you brought with you this time?"

The eminent barrister instantly started in his own inimitable way to spin a yarn. It was greeted with gales of laughter from those around the table, and Mr. Aikins felt the glow of the successful artist. He, however, was not slow to observe that Mrs. Richardson sat unsmiling at the head of the table.

"Humph," she said, "very good story, eh?" Then turning to the maid who was in attendance, she continued, "Hand me that casket on the mantel-piece." The maid complied, and Mrs. Richardson in her turn handed the little box to Mr. Aikins with the remark:

"This is a reward for your story, open it."

The guests at the table were much interested as the future governor raised the lid and disclosed an ancient and withered chestnut.

A SPLENDID OLD LADY

A Pioneer of Portage

One of the oldest pioneers of the province of Manitoba passed away at Portage La Prairie a few days ago in the person of Mrs. Elizabeth Watson.

She was a splendid and venerable lady, and like many of the first comers to the prairie, was of Scottish birth and ancestry. She was born in Invernesshire nearly ninety years ago, when there were still people alive who had fought for Bonnie Prince Charlie. She arrived in Manitoba with her husband and family in 1877, and resided there until her death. Her son is Senator Watson of Portage and all the members of her family are esteemed and respected in the community. She was a splendid example of the strong, wholesome type from which the original settlers are sprung.

MAJOR FITZ HORRIGAN

There will be universal regret amongst the old-timers of this whole western country from the Red River to the Yukon, at the news which came to hand a few days ago of the death in Honolulu of Major Fitz Horrigan, of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

There never was a more popular officer, and few more efficient.

He was appointed to a commission in the Mounted Police about 1898, and was stationed for a time in Regina, where he made himself very popular, not only with all ranks of the force, but with the people of the community.

He was shortly afterwards transferred to the Yukon, and he was one of the chief contributors to the splendid reputation which the force built up in that region during the turbulent days of the gold excitement.

After thirteen years in the north, he was for a time at Regina, and from there went to Calgary.

It was he who during the disturbances arising from the coal miners' strike in Alberta, succeeded in saving one of the mines which was threatened by a disturbing element amongst the strikers, and by a show of authority averted threatened trouble.

He had been in poor health for some time, but had gone to the South Sea island hoping for recovery.

He was sixty years old and was born in Pictou, Ontario.

At the time of his death, he was Superintendent in charge of the British Columbia division of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

NICHOLAS FLOOD DAVIN AND A CATHEDRAL

Away back about 1897 when the Normal students were in Regina for Dr. Groggin's class, without which they might not qualify as sure enough teachers, one of the features of the session was always a series of addresses by Nicholas Flood Davin, the brilliant Irishman who represented the extensive constituency of Western Assiniboia in the Commons. Mr. Davin was always entertaining and often eloquent, and was a general favorite amongst the Normalites.

On one occasion he took for his subject "Some travels in France." During the course of his verbal pilgrimage he took his hearers to the cathedral of the city of Rouen, which was not then as familiar to Western Canadians as it is at present.

He said, "The old monkish architects had created from gothic arch and ancient pillar a true artistic harmony. The ancient masonry congealed by time had an effect of endurance and the solemnity of a sepulchre, whilst the mouldy banners that were the trophies of by-gone wars and warriors stirred fitfully by every vagrant current of air in their places beneath the vaulted arches of the roof, had an effect indescribably solemn. By the altar the baptistry was so cunningly contrived that the surface of the water threw back in sharp detail the reflection of that massive and time-honoured interior."

There was a lot more, but that is enough for our story.

When Mr. Davin had concluded his graphic and glowing description, he was approached by a student who is now a legal luminary of the first magnitude, who addressed him and said:

"Mr. Davin; may I ask if that was a baptist cathedral?"

IRMA SCHOOL REPORT

From September 5th to March 1st
Days taught 121
No. of pupils 33.
Average days attendance 28
Those perfect in attendance.
Eleanor Barber, Dennis Barber, Lorne Milburn, Bernice Mathison.

—Promotions

To Grade 2.
Jan. 15th Douglas Hatch, Iva Edmonds Albert Lubrican.

To Grade 3.
Nov. 1st Lucille Guiltner, Grace Love, Myrtle Glasgow, Gerald Glasgow Dennis Barber, Clara Sharkey.
Jan. 15th Frank Maquire.

To Grade 5.
Jan. 15th Lorne Milburn, Doyle Eures, Margaret Rae, Edith Hostrup, Ada Edmonds.

To Grade 6.
Jan. 15th Maud Smallwood, Ma Willie Blade.

To Grade 7.
Jan. 15th Jean Blade, Alex Smallwood, Roy Envers, Charles Peterson Lloyd Edmonds.

Rank in Class
Grade 1. Bernice Mathison Rank 1.
Grade 2 Douglas Hatch Rank 1.
Grade 3. Myrtle Glasgow Rank 1.
Grade 5. Violet Biggs Rank 1.
Grade 6. Mand Smallwood Rank 1.
Grade 7. Alex Smallwood Rank 1.
Grade 8. Pauline Eures Rank 1.

ALMA MATER

Harry Wilson and family spent a few days at Paradise Valley the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. Zonneveld.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation of the many kindnesses and sympathy shown during the sickness and death of our son Alwin.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Ambler.

Mrs. R. F. Watson returned Sunday after spending a few days in Edmonton.

Ladies Aid met at Mrs. Geo. Tripp's Wednesday afternoon. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. McLeod's.

Mr. J. W. Stuart is holding an auction sale on March 16th, on S. W. 10-47-8 at the farm of the late H. M. Wood.

Mr. J. G. Clark and J. G. Elliot attended the Horse and Cattle Breeders Convention at Edmonton last week.

Look Folks !!

Its Come At Last !!

An Old Time Dance and Box Social In Aid of the G. W. V. A.

will be held in the Co-op. Hall, Irma

on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23rb

Ladies are requested to bring boxes
Card Playing from 8.30 p.m. to 10.30
Dancing from 10.30 p.m. to 12 midnight
Boxes will be Auctioned at twelve.
Dancing will continue after the boxes have been disposed of.
Admission 25c. per couple.
Ladies not bringing boxes 25c.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Tractor Oil.

We have 2 barrels each of the following Tractor Oils and can sell in full barrels lots

Mobileoil $1.49 gal.
Polarine .95 "

REMEMBER we just have 2 barrels and if you need oil for this summer now is the time to get it.

Irma Motors

WALL PAPER

We have a large assortment
ON THE WAY
At Reasonable Prices.

OUR STOCK OF ALABASTINE IS COMPLETE.

Don't FORGET We Have The
Royal Purple Remedies
Stock Food, Etc.

W. Ketchin & Co.

VILLAGE COUNCIL.

Council met in Co-op Hall.
All members present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Letter from Provincial Dept. of Health re Nurse.

Moved by Hardy that same be acknowledged as requested and placed on file until such time as the Rural Municipality takes action. Cd.

From Wainwright re Local Hospital. This matter was thoroughly discussed and J. W. Wyatt appointed as Medical Officer of Health. The Secretary appointed as Sanitary Inspector.

J. W. Wyatt, E. T. McDowell and Secretary appointed a committee to have charge of Fire Extinguishers and keep same in good working order. condition i-A-Uqozys,D sdeshr ds sss

Moved by Tripp that the Village adopt other than the single tax as a means of raising revenue an that Secretary prepare a list of places of business in the Village on which the various assessments might be levied to raise money from Business Tax, Building and Improvement Tax, Personal Property Tax and Licences. C.d

This subject was discussed at length by the several ratepayers present and all were of the opinion that the Council should adopt some or all of these methods of increasing the revenue.

Moved by Hardy that Council adjourn, to meet again on Monday, March 15th at 8 o'clock p.m. in the office of the Farmers Mutual Lumber Co. Cd.

N. M. Mathison, Sec'y

VIKING

The Grand Challenge of the local bonspiel was won by the F. Ross rink last Saturday evening by the score of 9 to 8 against the A Ross rink, in a game that bordered on the sensational all the way through. The large crowd that filled the waiting rooms and sides of the rink witnessed a game of curling that has been the talk of the town ever since and will be for some days to come. At some stages of the game the excitement was at fever heat especially when some seemingly impossible shots were made. Every end abounded in good shots on both sides and the crowd was kept in a state of feverish excitement until the last rock was thrown. There were several real outstanding shots made. In the first end with Angus and his men lying four to the good, Fred came down with a perfect shot and took two out and lay shot himself. Then again in the third end when it looked like Angus was going to put over a big end, Mr. Hummel put a crimp in it by wicking off a rock way on the side and pulling to the button and the efforts of all Angus horses and all Angus men couldn't get Hummel off the button again. The game continued this way until the eleventh end with Fred (and his rabbit's foot) pulling in ahead of Angus. In the eleventh hour, so to speak, Angus and his crew made a desperate attempt to even up and came within an ace of doing it. Angus succeeded in pilling up one of his famous big ends, but on his last rock was just a little wide and heavy and if he had laid in, would have toed the score on the 11th but could count only three. This made the score 7 to 9 coming home on the 12th. Augus' first line men of defense, made perfect shots in this end and things looked blue (for Fred.) until his third man, Finch, came up and made a perfect draw shot and cut off Angus's lead. "Cheif" Adams, third man for Angus, then went down and made the shot of his life, spoiling Finch's draw and taking out another rock that belonged to the opposition. Loud and continued applause followed this shot. Finch repeated his famous draw shot and pandemonium again broke loose. By a small margin Angus failed to take this rock out, and the game was over. Fred had won the Grand Challenge.

The next day the winners posed for their pictures which will appear in our next issue if the engravers get it ready in time.

A dance was held at the skating rink last Friday evening under the auspices of the rnk committee. It was a new innovation. It was advertised as a Moccasin dance but rubbers were the order of the evening.

Those who turned out, while appreciating the efforts of the committee, did not feel that dancing or the ice was quite as comfortable as in the hall, and it is not likely that it will be tried again, unless perhaps in connection with an ice carnival. The local musicians had a covered place out on the ice in which they dspensed good music but t ibecame rather chilly for them also.

The rink committee wish to extend thnks to all those who supported the event. The lunch put up by the Ladies was duly appreciated, Mrs. Omen, Mrs. Slavik, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Sparling, Mrs. McAthey and Mrs. Wes. Collier having ehrge of the refreshment stand. Several also donated cakes and sandwiches and altogether the committee feel indebted to them for their efforts in helping things at the rink.

JOINT SCHOOL TRUSTEES MEETING

A meeting of the Trustees of the Irma S. D. together with trustees from Ross. Glenholm, Strawberry, and Alma Mater S. D. was held in J. W. Wyatt's office on March 2nd to discuss the possibility of having a Consolidated School District blocked out.

The Irma School Trustees expect to build a new school this year and before doing so wished to learn the feeling of the school districts adjourning Irma regarding school consolidation Under the Sresent Act it is up to the Rural districts to form a committee with the School Inspector of the district and make a map of the proposed districts showing where the children reside and the roads of the district. This then sent into the Department and if pproved a vote is taken in the Rural districts only and if it passes it is then presented to the Village district and they vote and if carried the district is established. The reason of the rural districts voting first is to overcome any feeling they might have that the school consolidation was forced onto them by the village.

This matter was explained to the Trustees from the Rural districts and after some discussion the following minutes were passed.

Mrs. Edm. Malhoit is visiting her daughter Mrs. M. G. O'Farrell at Bruderhiem, Alta.

Mrs. A. G. Walker whose death we reported in last weeks Times was buried in Edmonton last Sunday.

JARROW

The regular meeting of the Jarrow Board of Trade was held on Tuesday last. Business was reported good in this connection. The Board is "feeling its feet" and we expect it to make good strides in the good work it is undertaking in the immediate future. New members also voted in at this meeting.

A successful and very enjoyable Box Social and Dance was held in aid of school organ fund on Friday last. There was a large attendance as usual and the music rendered by the Fuder orchestra left nothing to be desired. The proceeds amply covered the balance due on he organ and the surplus will be applied to purchase a stool.

A vote of thanks of thanks is extended by the committee to all those who so generously helped in this good cause. And dont forget the janitor and floor manager.

It has been suggested that, should anyone desire a piano at the school, the way is clear for them to go ahead and work for it.

Buck sure likes pie. And to beat it all he did the Highland Scottishe after consuming such a quantity.

The Cook missed the train on Monday morning at Edmonton and we were out of luck that day. However he is on the job again now. He tried to pacify us with a can of ice cream—Wgh!.

A big crowd attended the W. Jameson Sale last week. This was the second big sale attendance in about a week.

Mrs. E. Peet is visiting her relations in the Irma district.

Should business keep up its present gait we might expect an increased bank staff here shortly.

We noticed the other day that a milking machine agent walked out to a prospect in the country. Is this the result of organized and intensive salesmanship?

The buzz wagons are out again just like the flies. Some of our neighbors mistook the first car for an aeroplane. Of course you all know the make of that car.

The lumberman is getting busy with his stock again and the farmers are taking advantage of the very low prices he is offering his commodities at.

The garage men also are speeding up. This promises to be a good season to all after all the bumps we got on grain prices.

None of us are sorry to hear that the two rural telephone companies contemplate erecting practically a new pole line thru-out their respective systems.

It was getting so that we needed to carry wire-cutters.

Wm. Jamieson and family left for Poneka where they intend to make their future home.

Glen Moore is a visitor at the Capital.

J. A. Lennox shipped a bunch of stock to Edmonton.

Dont forget the dance at Metropolitan on the 11th inst.

It looks as if Jarrow might be a big oil distributing point in the near future. We are right in the middle of a very promising field anyway.

Spring is here by the appearance of the large shipments of farm machinery that are arriving almost every day.

See the notice for the St. Patrick's dance at Jarrow.

ALWIN AMBLER BURIED SATURDAY

The funeral of Alwin Ambler was held from the Irma Church last Saturday afternoon when a large crowd of friends of the deseased met for service and accompanied the remains to the Irma Cemetary. Rev. C. G. Hockin conducted the services. The deseased who was 23 years of age was an old resident of the Irma District arriveing here with his father Mr. D Ambler some years ago. During the winter he has been working in Edmonton as a machinist, he contracted a cold which developed into pneumonia. The Great War Veterans assisted with the funeral arrangements. The Pall bearers being Mr. Jas Kennedy and Mr. R. A. Larson representing the family and friends. Comrade Brooks 1st Vice. Pres. Comrade Inkin 2nd Vice Pres. Comrade Malhoit and ComradeMair representing the G. W. V. A. Mr. Ambler received word of the illness of his son the first of last week and was with him till he died in the Edmonton Hospital, last Wednesday morning.

BATTLE RIVER COUNCIL MINUTES

Councillors of Municipal District of Battle River No. 423 met in Council room, present Messrs Hill, Fischer, McDonald, Santee, King and Golding.

New Councillors elected viz Messrs McDonald, King and Golding took the Oath of Office.

Moved Mr. Santee that Mr. A. A. Fischer be appointed Reeve for the ensuing year. Cd.

Mr. Fischer then took the Reeves chair.

Moved by Mr. King that Mr. Santee be appointed Deputy Reeve for a term of six months. Cd.

Minutes of last meeting were read and on motion of Mr. Santee were accepted as read.

Moved by Mr Golding that the minutes of the public meeting held in Battle Heights school be received and placed on file for future reference. Cd

Moved by Mr. Hill that correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs re proposed amendment to Seed Grain Act be placed on file. Cd.

Moved by Mr. Hill that Sec'y notify the C. P. R. that application for a Surveyor for road through N. W. ¼-17-44-8-w4th will be made and same surveyed as soon as possible. Cd

Moved by Mr. King that communication from the Dept. of Public Works re road in the E½-18-44-8 be placed on file and that Mr. Hill investigate the same. Cd.

Moved by Mr. King that Sec'y communicate with Dept. of Municipal Affairs and get a ruling on the exemption to returned soldiers. Cd.

Moved by Mr McDonald that Mr. Hill and Mr. Santee be appointed representatives to attend Hospital meeting at Egerton on March 10th. Cd.

Moved by Mr. Santee that the following accounts be passed and paid. Cd.

A. A. Fischer	$5.00
R. J. Tate	250.00
P. O'Rielly	10.00
Western Mun. News	15.00
M. A. Boyer	15.10
W. E. Washburn	6.82
Stamps and Stationary	51.20
Alta Provincial Police	4.75
A. W. Howarth	50.00

Carried

Moved by Mr. King that estimate of 9,000.00 be set for public works. Cd.

Moved by Mr. Golding that the rate of taxation for Municipal purposes be 8 mills. Cd.

Moved by Mr. Hill that Council ask the Merchants Bank of Canada for a line of credit for 1921 of $7,500.00 for Municipal purposes and $7.500.00 for school purposes. Cd.

Moved by Mr. Santee that the Council meet the first Saturday in each month. Cd.

Moved by Mr. King that Council adjourn. Cd.

CLOSING OUT

AUCTION SALE

Having been instructed by Executors I will sell by Public Austion, Horses, Cattle, Farm Implements, etc. at S. W. Sec. 10-47-8 twelve miles north-east of Irma.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16th
4 HEAD OF HORSES
2 HEAD OF CATTLE
HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS
IMPLEMENTS, ETC

TERMS CASH:
Lunch at noon.—Sale immediately after.

T. Slipper, J. McCready, Executors.
R. J. TATE, Clerk
J. W. STEWART, Auctioneer

Leave your laundry at J. C. Shirley's Barber Shop for Snow Flake Steam Laundry. Ed.

IRMA POOL ROOM and BARBER SHOP

SOFT DRINKS TOBACCOS CIGARS, Etc.

Under New Management.

J. C. SHIRLEY
PROPRIETOR.

Leave

Your Films At

BASSETT'S Drug Store

Films Developed 15c

Prints 5c and up

PROMPT SERVICE

No More Blackleg

VACCINATE WITH **BLACKLEGOIDS**
and save the animals.

BLACKLEGOIDS
are
EASIEST
SAFEST
SUREST.

Used and endorsed everywhere that blackleg is known.

Call on us for circulars describing the disease and telling how to prevent it.

Sold by
C. A. BASSETT
Irma, Alta.

CHURCH NOTICES.

Sunday Services.

SUNDAY SERVICES, MARCH 13, 21
12 m. Preaching Service at Ross
3 p.m Preahing Service at Alma Mater
7.30 p.m. Preaching Service at Irma

Sundy School Sessions
1 p.m. Ross. 2p.m. Alma Mater and Irma.
2.30 p.m. at Roseberry

Sunday, March 20th

1 p.m. Preaching Service at Sunny Brae.
3 p.m. Preaching Service at Roseberry
7.30 p.m. Preachng Service at Irma

All are cordially invited to attend.

C G Hockin, Pastor

We are observing the week of March 20th to 27th as a week of special prayer. The church must receive more from the Community that her message and life may be more apparent in our relations. This is a call to consider especially this message for the passion week. Remember to pray for this time. Meetings will be held on each evening of the week, except Saturday.

A judge has declared that no woman who powders her nose or giggles will be permitted to sit on a jury. Isn't it wrong to bar all of the women folks from the jury duty?